

THE STAR'S

COMPUTING &amp; HIGH TECH

## COMPUTER COMPANIES

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His Majesty King Hussein during his visit to the Apple Expo on Sunday

## King visits Apple Expo '92

By Khaidoon Tabaza  
Special to The Star

Apple Expo '92 had a fabulous ending last Sunday when His Majesty King Hussein paid a visit to the Expo. The King expressed his admiration of the products on show and was particularly interested in the Development booth, where Al-Muhaseb Al-Mithali, the first product from the development department at Ideal Systems was displayed. The Educational booth was His Majesty's next major attraction where he stopped for sometime and showed special interest in the educational software available in Arabic.

### BITS & BYTES

Al-Alamieh Software have finally released their long-awaited Arabization shell for Windows 3.1. The product looks good, and it is now being sold in a number of Arab countries. It is doing very well, according to Al-Alamieh's sources — especially in Saudi Arabia.

Arab Macintosh users should expect to have a great

package of software available for their machines at the end of next month, which should solve many problems in word processing, spread sheets and graphic design. The package is called Claris Works, and will be bundled with the Macs sold as of the end of July.

The French company Winsoft have released their latest version of the most popular Macintosh Arabic wordprocessor.

Wintext. Wintext 2.7 is completely compatible with System 7.0, and will work perfectly on the Powerbook and the Quadra series. The new version will be available at JD 50 for those who are already using Wintext. The upgrade process will involve new installation disks and two new Arabic fonts. Other companies are expected to announce software upgrades that go with the Powerbook.

## What the computer cannot do

The following is a lecture delivered by Dr Othman Malhas, Dept. of Mathematics, Yarmouk University, to the members of the Jordan Computer Society

CONTRARY to common belief there are things that computers cannot do. One of the most striking features of modern science is the fact that it sets theoretical limits on what can be done. For example, in thermodynamics perpetual motion machines are ruled out. In relatively there is a law that says that you cannot travel faster than light, not because technology has not advanced enough but because it is theoretically impossible to do so. In quantum theory there is a law that says that you cannot know too much; you cannot know the position and velocity of a particle as precisely as you may wish. Similarly, the theory of computation has both demonstrated the power of computers and discovered the limits of the power.

In 1922 the great mathematician David Hilbert conjectured that there must exist algorithms for deciding whether any statement of mathematics is true or not by examining and analyzing the symbols of that statement. To state Hilbert's program in modern terms, we would say that Hilbert believed that a computer can be constructed which would operate on a set of symbols (such as those used by mathematicians e.g. +, x, =, 1, 0 etc.) in accordance with certain rules such that if the input is some mathematical statement, the output would either be 0 or 1 according to whether the input is true or not.

Ten years later a young Austrian mathematician, Kurt Gödel, proved in his *Incompleteness theorem*, that Hilbert's program cannot be implemented and, paradoxically, modern computer science was begun. At once Gödel demonstrated the limitations and power of computation. This conclusion is called the *Incompleteness theorem*. The proof of the incompleteness theorem is extremely difficult, but its conclusion is considered a milestone in human intellectual history.

#### What is an Algorithm?

A key concept in the above considerations is that of an *algorithm*. Very loosely speaking an algorithm is a set of rules for doing something. This, or similar definitions, is not sufficiently precise if one wants to show that an algorithm for doing something does not exist. One must, then, attach a very precise meaning to the word. Alan Turing, a British logician, turned his attention to this problem in the mid thirties of this century. The motivation for Turing's definition was as follows:

In manipulating symbols written on a page one acts in one of the following ways:

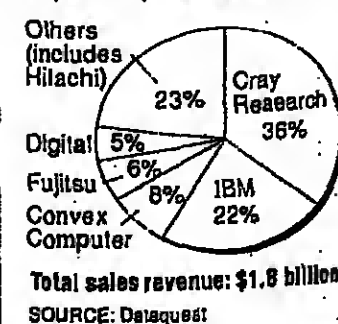
- 1) moves his or her eyes around the page
- 2) erases a symbol
- 3) writes one symbol in place of another

In all cases, the action of the person is determined by what he sees at any time and by his internal state. After performing one of the actions listed above, the person moves to a new internal state. A machine that emulates this procedure is called a *Turing Machine*. Turing gave such a machine a precise mathematical characterization and postulated what is now called *Turing Thesis*: A problem is solvable by an algorithm if and only if it can be solved on a Turing machine. This is clearly a daring thesis, but it has stood the test of time. Any modern computer is essentially a *universal Turing machine*. Very loosely, this means that a computer is a whole lot of Turing machines put together.

Turing showed that his apparently simple machines can solve a very large class of problems. Thus for most purposes of daily life computers can (almost) do anything. He, however, also demonstrated the limitations of his machines, by demonstrating the existence of very precisely formulated problems that Turing machines cannot solve. By Turing's thesis no computer (even the latest, most powerful, fastest and most ingenious) can solve them. Computer scientists and manufacturers know that Alan Turing was right.

### Supercomputer market share

Hilachi announced Tuesday that it has developed the world's fastest supercomputer. 1991 world market share for supercomputer sales:



6/1/92

KRT Information

# The Star

Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

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اسبوعية سياسية مستقلة

## The Star

Wishes His Majesty King Hussein and the Jordanian people a happy Eid El Adha. Due to the holiday, the next issue of The Star will appear on 25 June.

## Le Jourdain

Section française du Star

■ Pages 10 &amp; 11

In this week's

## WORKSTATION

■ Views on computer advertising  
■ New motto in personal computing



On the Occasion of the Anniversary of The Great Arab Revolt and Army Day



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Harvesting the desert

## Peaches aplenty from the Badia's soils

By Pam Dougherty  
Special to the Star

AT THE University of Jordan's Muwaqqar experimental station, 50 kilometers south east of Amman, Dr Awni Taimel of the University's Faculty of Agriculture smiles with satisfaction as he picks ripe, tasty peaches.

The Muwaqqar area receives an annual average of only 150 mm of rain, making peaches an unlikely crop on land more normally covered by steppe-like vegetation. But since the University's arid and semi-arid land agricultural improvement program at Muwaqqar began in 1985, with European Community grants of ECU 700,000 and ECU 300,000, quite a number of unexpected

and pleasing, results have been found.

The Badia, the lands receiving between 100 and 200 mm annual rainfall, makes up around 90 per cent of Jordan and has traditionally been used mainly for extensive grazing, with 70-80 per cent of Jordan's sheep and around half its goats located in these areas.

Unfortunately, pressure on these fragile areas has been growing. Higher livestock density has led to continuous use of ranges resources giving them little time to regenerate, the expansion of cropping has reduced the area available for grazing, cultivation by tractors has eliminated much stepped vegetation, causing erosion, while trucking of water has led to year round grazing of areas that in the past would have been

used only seasonally.

The University of Jordan project was established with three major economic and environmental considerations in mind — how to harvest run-off water economically, how to use the water and other inputs most effectively to improve productivity and how to rehabilitate the over-used land in order to make it more productive and to protect the more fertile land to its west.

The first step was to fence the experimental area to allow natural regeneration and to protect plantings. Three simple, inexpensive earth dams with a total capacity of 80,000 to 100,000 cubic metres per flood, now the pride of the project, were built to catch run off and store water. Topography, soil, vegetation and land use



Jordan-EC cooperation promises high yields

maps of the station were made and a meteorological station was installed to provide rain, sunshine, wind, temperature and relative humidity measurements.

Staff and students from the Faculty of Agriculture have been carrying out trials to determine soil characteristics and fertility

and have been testing the effects of supplementary irrigation and of oil cultivation techniques on soil moisture, the use of different irrigation techniques, productivity of the soil with different crops and the introduction of a variety of native and introduced forage crops.

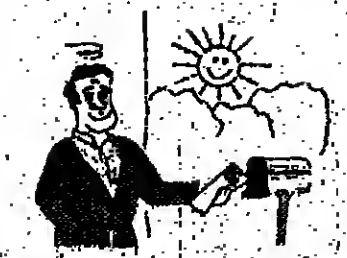
Today the abundant natural vegetation cover at the Muwaqqar station stands out against the bare surrounding areas. Numerous small experimental plots show what can be done in the way of fruit tree and olive planting, forage crops and barley.

Results will be presented this year at the EC sponsored International Seminar in Water Harvesting, which will take place in Bari in Italy.

Like all those involved in the Muwaqqar experiments, Dr Taimel is realistic about what can be achieved in such difficult conditions. "It would be satisfactory if we could turn 30 per cent of the land to something like this," he says as he gestures to the dense natural cover that has grown on the protected land and which, he says, would now be excellent for controlled grazing.

The harvested water can generally be used in two ways, either for carefully targeted supplementary irrigation for fruit trees or barley and fodder crops or possibly for space irrigation when it is allowed to flow over a wider area either for the general improvement of the area for grazing purposes or to allow a crop planting. But even with the most efficient water harvesting there will never be enough for intensive crops. Almonds, peaches and olives are possible, tomatoes and cucumbers not.

With the first program now completed, plans are underway for a new project to build on the Muwaqqar experience. The EC grant of ECU 2 million, provided under the Third EC-Jordan economic, financial and technical protocol, will ensure that the University of Jordan Faculty of Agriculture staff can continue their work, and forms part of a wider national effort to promote an environmentally sustainable development of Jordan's Badia lands.



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Jordan's pavilion at Expo '92:

## A microcosmic time capsule

By Kate Daniels  
Star Staff Writer

TO WALK in Jordan is to walk through history. It is the crossroads where the Middle East and the continents of Europe, Asia and Africa meet — continents which have all in turn spawned great nations and peoples. As a strategic trading and communications link between the empires of the ancient world, Jordan remains a precious souvenir of past cultures and civilizations.

It is the influence of such cultures — be they Assyrian, Mesopotamian, Greek, Roman, Byzantine or Islamic — that has made Jordan the eclectic and diverse country we find today, while the legacies of past nations serve to remind us of Man's progress.

The 1992 Universal Exposition (Expo '92), the global exhibition which opened in Seville this April, is a tribute to Man's progress, charting the heritages of Man's achievements throughout nations and throughout time. Heralding the Quincentennial of Columbus' discovery of America, the Expo has been launched under the theme of the 'Age of Discovery', and has brought together 110 nations from around the world — one of them being Jordan.

Jordan's contribution to the Expo has been small so far, but significant. Occupying a two-floor wing in a building shared with Syria, Egypt and the Arab League, Jordan's pavilion has utilized 400 square meters of floor space and the flair and ingenuity of an expert team of architects.

Jordanian architect, Mr Raseem Badran, who is a member of Jordan's National Committee for the Expo and the head of the team who designed the pavilion, said that Jordan's presence in Seville has been both valuable and educational. "The whole pavilion is presented within a human framework," he said. "It is designed to enlarge one's human knowledge. Through the pavilion one feels the achievements of mankind."

Jordan's national pavilion was originally intended to be an independent structure, but due to lack of funds plans were scrapped at an early stage. The Spanish government then stepped in, offering to cover construction costs for a shared building, one wing of which would be reserved for Jordan. "It was a goodwill gesture," said Badran, "and one which we are extremely grateful for."

Badran's team of architects then set about designing a set within their designated plot, concentrating on the spatial framework offered. They also had their 'concept' to consider — one that would present Jordanian culture with all its aspects and its backgrounds. Through liaising with groups from the Ministries of Tourism and Culture, the Department of Antiquities and the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, the team decided upon a presentation that would offer an integrated image of Jordan both historically and culturally.

"We aim to show the contributions of the various civilizations that have influenced Jordan through different periods," said Badran. "After all, Jordan is full of rich materials such as Petra, Jerash and the Umayyad palaces. We (the team) think of the pavilion rather like a poem — as a whole rather than in separate parts."

The pavilion is a microcosmic

time capsule of Jordan's history. It traces significant landmarks in time — from what Badran describes as "the stone culture" of Petra, passing through the refined elegance of the Roman period, the splendor of the golden age of Islam, the urbane grace of the Ottoman empire, closing finally with a vision of contemporary Jordan.

A remarkable aspect about the Jordanian pavilion is that it succeeds in making the most of its spatial qualities while encapsulating Jordan's history in physical terms. The visitor actually walks through time, experiencing its sights and sounds, physically entering the bygone worlds of past civilizations.

"In order to show Petra, we presented the image and the 'feel' of the Stone Age through a reconstruction of the city, with all its corners and narrow corridors," said Badran. This was achieved by making computer and photographic images of the structure and translating them into a built-to-scale model using light materials such as styrofoam.

On entering the Byzantine age, the visitor is faced with a perfectly reconstructed mosaic of the most ancient Biblical map of the Holy Land. Moving onto the days of Islam, one enters a 1:4 scale model of the Umayyad Qasr Anra, with its glorious frescoes exquisitely redrawn in miniature.

All of the structures have been arranged in such a way that when visitors walk around the pavilion, their circulation is well ordered and distributed. "It is a poetic image," enthused Badran.

The Ottoman age takes the ancient city of Salt — one of the oldest active urban settlements in Jordan — as its motif, with its elaborate architecture, flights of steps and meandering arcades. The 'Salt corner' is a colorful display of indigenous arts and crafts, augmented by a range of locally embroidered dresses and a small, reconstructed shop.

"Salt represents a pure, socio-cultural model of a town that is still active and living and has a very tight relationship between the present and past," said Badran. "It also introduces the Palestinian element in Jordanian society, as many Palestinians settled in Salt. It illustrates a transfer of cultures."

The final stage in the pavilion shows the face of modern Jordan and the Jordan of the future. It is a metal cube — a neutral space in which the health services, educational and industrial achievements of the country are presented through a display of visual materials.

"The pavilion is a total environment," said Badran. "It allows for a variety of experiences and appeals to all of the senses. The visitor is afforded with a very pro-

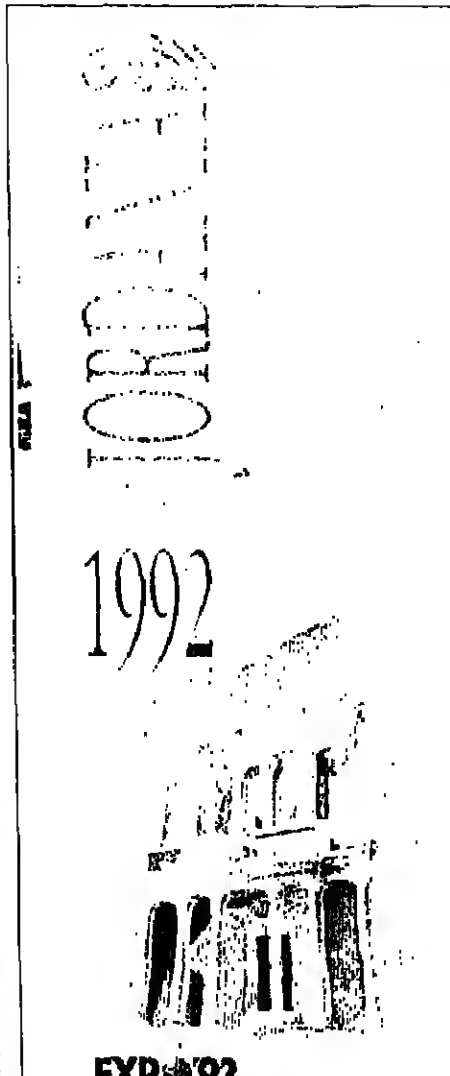
found, smooth, knowledge of Jordan."

Providing the outside world with a positive cultural and political image of the country is one of Jordan's aims behind its presence at the Expo. Daily figures so far suggest that from 250,000 visitors, a total of 30,000 are visiting the Jordanian site.

"I was astounded by the number of people who wanted to see our pavilion," said Abner Lahham, a fellow architect of Raseem Badran, who was working with the Jordanian team before the opening of the Expo. "Every 10 minutes for 11 hours a day, there were about 50 to 70 people inside. This was quite unique compared to other pavilions," she added.

For frustrated Jordanians who fear a trip to Spain may be beyond the realms of their budget, the National Committee hope that once the Expo closes in October, the pavilion will be brought back home and displayed for the Jordanian public.

"This is a model of Jordan that can be utilized for the next 10 years," said Badran, proudly. "We can now take Jordan anywhere in the world."



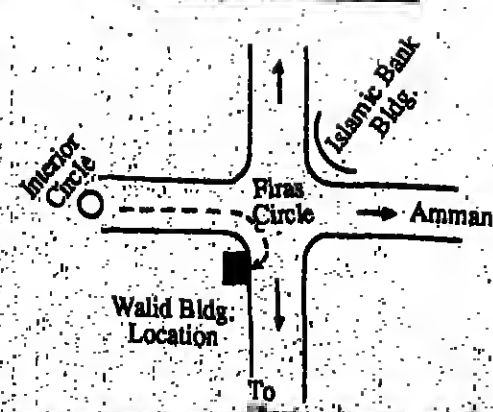
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## Lancôme introduces Hydrative

AFTER THE successful launching of Trésor perfume by Lancôme, the French cosmetics company is introducing a new skin care product, Hydrative. On this occasion Lancôme agents in Jordan, Gifts Corner, organized a press briefing on Saturday at the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel, where Hydrative was introduced by Miss Beverley Billington, Lancôme's technical commercial manager for the Middle East.

Miss Billington said that Hydrative is "environmentally friendly", packaged in a 100% recyclable jar. The product is known for its genuine, deep, inexhaustible resource of hydration that helps the stratum corneum improve its primary function: defence against external aggression. In addition, it nourishes the skin with its vitamin E component and protects it with sunscreen factor no. 3.

The briefing was attended by Mr Ibrahim and Miss Abeer Abu Shakra.



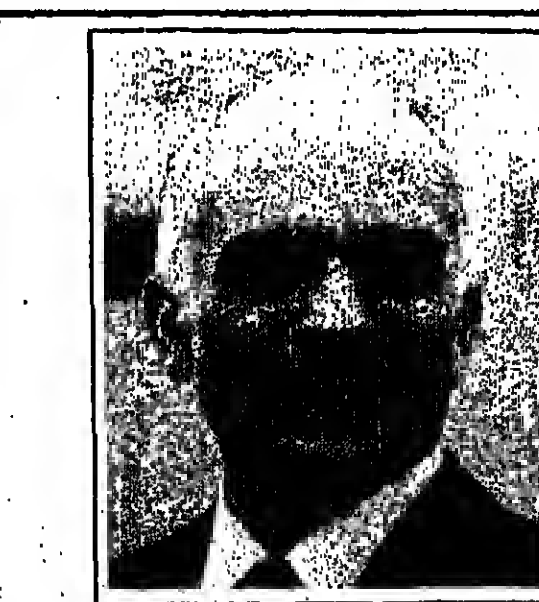
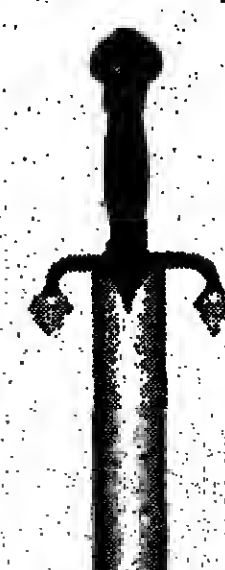
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and the people of Jordan on the occasion of Eid Al-Adha



A doctor in the house

## When medicine alone is no longer enough

Hind-Lara Mango  
Special to The Star

AS MEDICINE becomes more and more specialized, doctors are becoming more and more alienated and are losing personal contact with their patients. In other words, the role of a doctor is becoming more one of a pure physician, treating an ailment rather than a person.

As a result of this phenomenon, the concept of 'family medicine' has been circulating for the last three decades. It is in reaction to the increased complexities of medicine, which have reduced patients from being treated as people with individual needs. 'Family medicine' therefore aims to give doctors a more personal role in treating the patient and family.

In 1990, at the invitation of the Ministry of Health and USAID, Dr Vincent Hunt, professor and chairman of the department of family medicine at Brown University, was asked to make a feasibility study for the introduction of family medicine in Jordan. He is now back, helping and advising in facilitating plans to set such projects up.

Dr Hunt has worked on similar schemes in South Korea, Lebanon, China, and Russia. "I think that Jordan has a lot to offer," he said. "There is a lot of emphasis on the family, a phenomenon not



Family medicine focuses on a patient's individual needs

stressed in America. It will be interesting to see how effective family medicine will be applied here, keeping this characteristic in mind."

Family medicine involves the physician taking care of the whole family and dealing with the patients' common problems. In the case of pregnancy, for example, the physician would provide preconception care — which means aiding the mother in her diet and helping her to be in the best health possible, even before getting pregnant.

This physician would also take care of her before and after labor,

and would take care of her baby. Family medicine, added Dr Hunt, extends the doctor's role to being adviser, coordinator and a friend to patients when near to death.

Because such criteria require specific professional training, specialties in this field were established in several countries and the US in 1969. After graduating from medical school, doctors are trained specially in family medicine.

Dr Hunt believes firmly in its effectiveness, noting that legislators in Congress are funding training and that appreciation of the concept is increasing. "Doc-

tors can go almost anywhere in the States and earn a good living in this field," he said. "Patients miss having a friendly relationship with their physician, and are confused when it comes to choosing the right physician for their illnesses."

Another reason why family medicine is gaining in popularity is that it is cost effective: Patients do not have to pay a high sum for such services, yet the results they receive are of a very high quality.

As to how health care services will be affected by family medicine in Jordan, Dr Adnan Abbas, secretary general at the Ministry of Health, explained that the ministry is currently undergoing major reforms to improve the efficiency of its health care system. These, he said, aim to tackle the increased demand for its services and to utilize the limited resources available.

"Since general practitioners working at health care centers do so for only a limited period of time, patients are constantly referred from one doctor to another," he said. "The next doctor to come along may transfer the patient to an out-patient clinic at a hospital, where equipment is very expensive. So, most health clinics become redundant, but most importantly, patients suffer."

Another draw-back to the

present system, said Dr Abbas, is that "we are looking at the disease and not the patient, nor the socio-economic dimensions of health and disease." He feels strongly that family medicine can change this phenomenon and solve such problems.

Family medicine in Jordan is now in its preparatory stages. Back in 1990 when Dr Hunt first came to Jordan, an affiliation agreement was signed with Brown University supported by USAID. The latter has already allocated \$400,000 for the coming five years in support of the Jordanian program. This will enable the Ministry of Health to make use of experts in this field for training doctors here, and to draw up the guide lines for an academic curriculum.

Dr Abbas disclosed that local universities have also expressed their support for the scheme and are ready to aid the ministry where possible. In this manner, a degree in family medicine may soon be available in Jordan. In the meantime, the ministry has set about striving to upgrade the standards of current practitioners in Jordan.

"Our ultimate goal is to link further education to a self-motivating system, whereby doctors can take short term courses in hospitals on how best to deal with common problems," said Dr Abbas.

### Review of 'A Clever Man's Game':

## Simplicity is key to success for Popular Theater

By Vesna Masharqa  
Special to The Star

'A CLEVER Man's Game', the delightful monodrama currently showing at the Popular Theater in Abdali, is yet another outstanding theater piece that has been written and directed by Fathi Abdul Rahman.

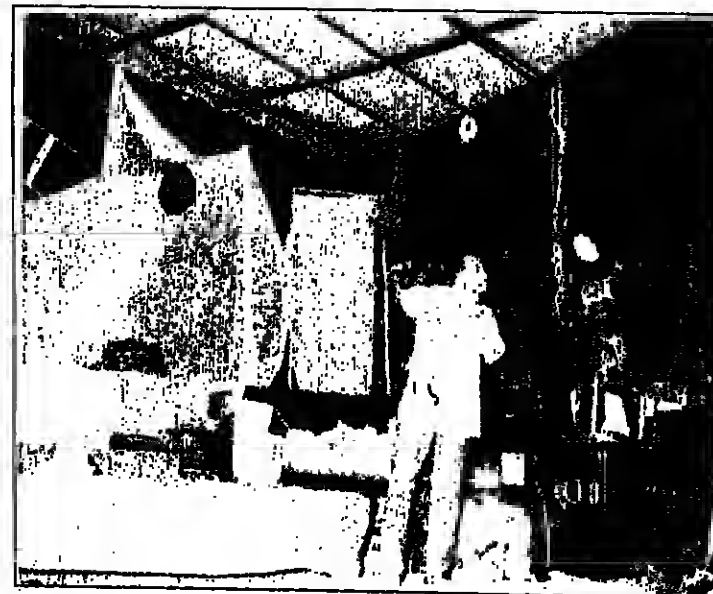
Once again, Fathi Abdul Rahman succeeds in winning the audience over with the simplicity of his theatrical language ('Soft Desert Sand' is yet another of his productions where simplicity and creativity are the main pillars).

His ingenious use of language complemented actor Salah Hourani's enormous acting potential, augmented by his imaginative use of theater space and creative application of theatre accessories — often used as symbols which, when used in different actions, carried different meanings.

The play itself is a mixture of comedy, tragedy, acrobatics and puppetry. It deals bravely with contradictions, ideological contrasts and the disintegration of compound concepts into 'simple elements'.

The plot deals with the fate of a traitor, whose first mistake leads to a chain of consecutive mistakes. The 'adding' is the 'main focus' of the play, along with its successful attempt to describe the positive socio-political phenomena of the Intifada through the negative character of this collaborator.

"This play was a great challenge for me," said director Abdul Rahman. "To keep the audience's attention for one hour,



Scene set in an Israeli settlement storage room

with the actor as a 'negative hero' in a very simple setting and using simplified theatrical language, needed, an exhaustive study of every movement and every word. Otherwise, the whole structure could have become at any moment stupid and vulgar," he added.

For actor Hourani, the play required six to seven hours of daily rehearsals and physical training. It also demanded enormous reserves of energy, with which to maintain the panorama of more than 15 characters of different ages, sexes, educational and social backgrounds; and with which to make them convincing and original.

Surrounded by the simple de-

cor of an Israeli settlement's storage room, we find a chair, a blanket, a bed, a pair of lady's tights, a broom, a barrel and a variety of hats hanging down from the ceiling, acting as people, places or different events. Here Hourani tries to justify his life philosophy to the audience.

"A clever man doesn't get tired much," he said. "He gets money, good food, drugs, women and clothes in the easiest way possible. If he is clever, he will know how to achieve it. Sometimes he has to throw himself into the fire, if it will serve his interests."

Commenting on the character inspiring the actor, Hourani talked about the deep internal conflict he had had while working on the play.



Actor Hourani

"Deep inside I hated Abu Muhammad," he said, "but as an actor I had to convince everybody that he had his side to the story, which is something I believe he must have. Traitors are victims of circumstances; they do not just get born."

From the other side of the stage, the audience seemed to be divided into two groups: "One openly expressed their hatred and anger toward Abu Muhammad, while the other group, which was obstinate to react, was silently worried that somebody may have empathy for him; Abu Muhammad finally finds his release at the end of the play, when he is

killed by Mossad agents after they find they no longer have any use for him.

When asked what his reaction would be should he ever come face to face with Abu Muhammad one day, Hourani answered, "I would laugh and laugh. You know, we have a proverb: Too much tragedy becomes a comedy! That is how I would feel."

The play will be showing twice a week at the Popular Theater in Abdali, and the other days of the week, it will be touring to the municipalities of Karak, Baqa'a, Zarqa, Madaba, Mafraq, Irbid and Jerash.

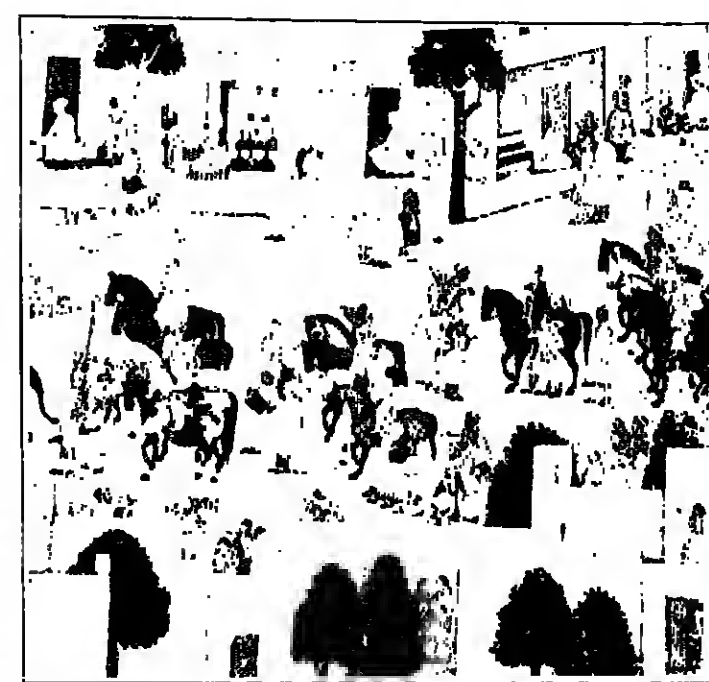
## Paintings from Princely courts

The different styles developed on the South Asian subcontinent over several centuries have recently featured in major exhibitions in Europe and the United States.

By Shirley Rizvi

LONDON — Mughal style paintings old and new have conveyed a message of consistency and continuity of this grand expression of South Asian art. The paintings have been the focus of attention in exhibitions on the two sides of the Atlantic. The Mughal Courts, an exhibition at London's Commonwealth Institute, featured contemporary Indian miniatures. Indian Miniatures from Paris displayed the former possessions of the Dutch collector Frits Lugt at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam in August, and Indian paintings collected by contemporary British painter Howard Hodgkin were presented in an exhibition at the Arthur M Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC. Yet another exhibition of early Indian paintings found enthusiastic buyers at Spink's Gallery in London.

A spectacular display of exquisitely detailed modern miniatures, The Mughal Courts went on show at London's Commonwealth Institute's Bhowanagore Gallery last November and attracted interest from a cross section of people including



A marriage procession, opaque watercolor on paper

several generations and who claims to be a descendant of Ustad Mansur, the court artist of the Emperor Jahangir. He specializes in detailed compositions of flora and fauna.

Ghanshyam Nimbuk, inspired by frescoes and the art work of

shops. Introduced in Iran, miniature painting reached its height under the patronage of Mughal emperors. Early miniatures were colored with natural vegetable dyes and often adorned with semiprecious stones, such as pearls and rubies, which were ground and mixed with gum Arabic. After every application, the painting was burnished on the reverse with a piece of agate to allow excess paint to fall off and prevent flaking.

The colors are mixed in oyster shells using handmade brushes. The detailed work is carried out with the help of a magnifying glass and a single hair brush. Many of the traditionalists still follow these practices today.

While the London exhibition indicates how this old art form has survived, the exhibitions in Amsterdam and Washington, DC, have mainly been a celebration of the vibrant tradition as it thrived from the 16th to the 19th century. Gods, royalty and the common folk of the 16th- to 19th-century subcontinent mingle within the 40 works of art from the collection of the abstract British artist Howard Hodgkin. Indian Paintings and Drawings from the Collection of Howard Hodgkin will travel to the Museum Rietberg, Zurich, in the summer of this year and to the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, in the autumn.

Hodgkin selected artworks for the exhibition in collaboration with Milo C Beach, director of the Sackler Gallery. As Beach and Andrew Toppfield, assistant keeper of Eastern Art at the Ashmolean Museum explain in an accompanying book, the personalities, activities and interests that defined court and town life in many of the independent kingdoms of the subcontinent are mirrored in the paintings.

The works represent three major traditions: Rajput, Mughal and Deccani. Political control of north India from the 16th through the 19th century was divided between the Mughals — who ruled from Agra or Delhi in northern India, Lahore in present-day Pakistan, or the Deccan in the south — and the Rajputs, who controlled distinct yet small

kingdoms mainly in Rajasthan and the Punjab Hills. Their power was secure only when they paid tribute to the Mughal emperor.

Hodgkin's paintings and drawings are organized into five thematic groups: Hunting Scenes, The Architectural Setting, Outside the Palace Walls, Portraits and Traditional Stories. These themes are common to all three artistic traditions and thus offer the viewer an abundance of information of South Asian life in times gone by. The seven works in the hunting section, for example, explore one of the great royal pastimes, through which rulers could assert their bravery off the battlefield. The hunt also provided excitement and relief from the stifling opulence of court life.

A striking subject found throughout the exhibition is the elephant, coveted by royalty for its size, majesty and power. Great elephants were always sought for the royal stables, and many of the paintings and drawings show elephants with riders or in the wild. One Rajput painting from about 1745 shows sequential episodes in an elephant hunt. As wild female elephants and their young frigate in a lotus pond, an enraged male rushes at two intruding elephants, whose riders — partially camouflaged by leaves tucked into their turbans and bells — are intent on capturing part of the herd. At the top of the painting, the same male elephant has been harnessed and is led away between two trained elephants.

The 12 works in the sections on The Architectural Setting and Outside the Palace Walls contrast the private life of the Rajput rulers with the ceremonial events that took place when royalty left its palace enclave.

While the Mughals introduced true portraiture — images celebrating

individual appearance and character — into India, the Rajputs tended to emphasize instead the universal or generic aspects of people and scenes. The exhibition contrasts these approaches in 13 examples.

Eight works on view represent stories from the lives of the gods, traditional tales of adventure, moral fables and poetry. Such illustrations were continuously popular subjects for artists. In most cases, the depictions were intended for inclusion in handwritten books.

Howard Hodgkin has commented that the appeal of South Asian painting lies partly in its fascinating 'presentation' of a world quite different from that of the West. His collection is united by visual relationships that will reward the attentive viewer.

Indian Miniatures from Paris.

the exhibition in the Rijksmuseum was drawn from the holdings of the famous Dutch collector Frits Lugt, who placed his possessions under the Foundation Custodia in Paris. It highlighted a part of the collection not as well known as its European component. Lugt started collecting Indian miniatures in the 1920s, inspired apparently by Rembrandt's drawings after Mughal miniatures. After his death in 1970 the collection was considerably enlarged by his successor Carlos van Hasselt, the present director of the Foundation Custodia.

As with the Mughal section in the Washington exhibition, the Rijksmuseum display highlighted the development of applied arts under the great Mughal emperors, particularly Akbar. By far the greatest achievement of the period was the strides made in the art of portraiture. The traditional method had been to make the person portrayed recognizable by costume and attributes, but Akbar encouraged artists to develop their work in a way that the subjects could be recognized by their personal appearance. Thus Mughal interest in portraiture was further developed under Akbar's successors, Jahangir (1605-28) and Shah Jahan (1628-58). When Mughal patronage of the arts began to wane in the late 17th century, centers of painting proliferated all over the country.

The coincidence of major shows on paintings from the subcontinent sadly contrasts with the lack of patronage, particularly government funding, of the traditional arts in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, the three major bearers of the legacy. Only in recent years has interest in these arts been revived as an indirect result



Hamzanama manuscript, circa 1562-77

of an upsurge in collecting by high-income families.

Will traditional miniature painting survive as it has been known through centuries? Perhaps yes, but not without public interest and a greater flow of private and public funds in the direction of the living artists. After all, miniature painting is a labor of love, pure and simple.

Academic File



Walter Sisulu:

# Father to a rising nation

By John Carlin

WALTER SISULU'S grandmother had a premonition that the boy was going to be trouble. "She would say in me, 'We have fears about you, we fear that you will not be able to serve'. By this she meant, of course, that I would not be able to serve the white man."

Now eighty years old, Sisulu is the peasant boy who became deputy president of the African National Congress and is one of the best-loved political figures in South Africa. His belief that racism is morally inferior people without dignity has proved decisive in shaping the philosophy and political direction of the ANC, founded the year he was born.

Almost alone among the organization's leaders, Sisulu, who is happily married to Albertina, still lives in Soweto, in the same small red-brick home where 50 years ago his mother took in other people's washing.

Animated, kind and lucid, Sisulu tried to explain what it was that transformed a boy brought up to tend cattle into arguably the most influential figure in black South African politics this century.

"We were trained to accept as a fact of life that the country was ruled by whites. And this made me unhappy. It really did. I was an admirer of our history, of the heroes of our time, and I looked at the world of blacks and the world of whites and it built in me a sort of defiant attitude. I felt

whites did not deserve so much respect. I felt they should be given ordinary respect."

The quest for "ordinary respect" has directed Sisulu's life. And he has succeeded, both in the private sphere and in politics, where black leaders now negotiate for power with a white government.

"Yes indeed. It's happening. And I must confess it has exceeded all expectations. I am quite satisfied that I have reached a position where I can say, 'Yes, we have done it.'"

After completing his education to the standard reached by white 10-year-olds, he went to Johannesburg at the age of 15 "in search of adventure" and found work at a coal mine. Over the next 10 years he worked in a series of poorly paid jobs, rarely lasting long in any one because of his insubordination, his active trade unionism, and his decision



Sisulu: Dedicated to a non-racial society

in 1940 to join the ANC.

In 1941, "a brilliant and impressive young man" turned up at his door in Soweto. A fresh arrival in Johannesburg, his name was Nelson Mandela. Sisulu took Mandela in as a lodger, taught him about politics and encouraged him to join the ANC. He also looked after him financially, buying him his first suit and finding him work

as a clerk in a law firm.

"I had high hopes for Mandela. I could see he had a future. He was a man of nobility and he had ideas which I felt should be developed. He was someone whose thinking showed he could do things."

The two men, along with Oliver Tambo (later president, now chairman of the ANC), rapidly emerged as the most energetic political team in black politics. In 1944, they founded the ANC Youth League. Five years later, in an electoral coup, they took over the ANC itself.

In 1948, with the National Party elected to power, apartheid was to become enshrined in law. Very angry, and perhaps a little bitter, Sisulu was elected to the ANC's top executive position, secretary general, the following year and galvanized the organization around a strategy of active protest. For the next 12 years he was in and out of prison and court, until, in 1961, the ANC adopted the armed struggle and he went underground, delivering weekly broadcasts from a clandestine radio transmitter. In 1964, he was captured, tried and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Instantly he and Mandela assumed the role of leaders on Robben Island, the South African prison off Cape Town. The two men led a continual political battle between the black prisoners and the white authorities.

Albertina Sisulu kept the candle burning during the 25 years that her husband was in jail,

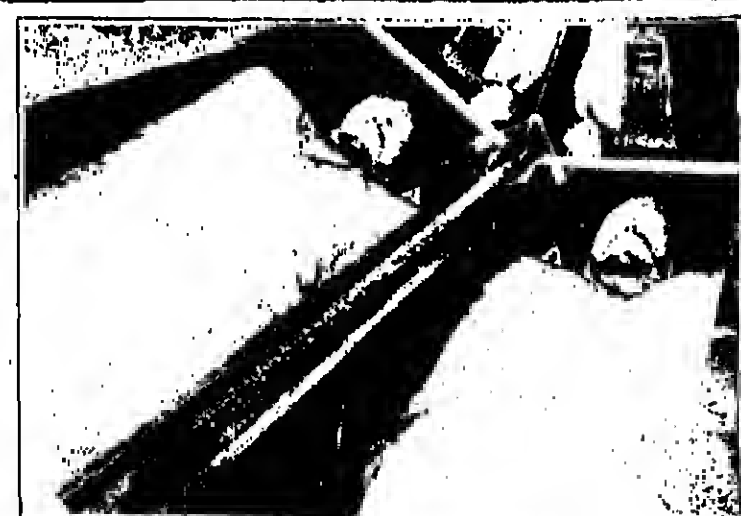
working as a nursing sister and emerging as a high-profile political figure. Close-knit and coherent, the family have become the embodiment of black aspirations. All five children excelled academically and have risen to positions of social and political significance.

To this day Nelson Mandela consults Sisulu on major issues. One of them concerns President F W de Klerk. In the light of what Sisulu called "the deliberately orchestrated violence in the townships," the great question has been, where does de Klerk stand?

"Well, he's not P W Botha," says Sisulu. "I felt like kicking the TV when I saw him standing there. I don't feel that way with de Klerk. He is a smooth operator. He is a smart man who knows what he is doing and who thinks he is clever. He still wants to dominate the political sphere in South Africa, even after the changes have taken place."

Nobody in the ANC leadership has been more alert than Sisulu to the dangers of complacency, of becoming too enmeshed in the detail of negotiations for the transfer of power.

Some in the ANC may be too arrogant to listen to him. Mandela, however, can only talk about his friend in terms of superlatives. At a party last week to celebrate Sisulu's birthday Mandela described him as "a father to millions," adding, "You personally the dignity and respect we want for all South Africans."



Biko's body laid out for burial after his death in 1977

come a dead metaphor, a dead symbol, used as a convenient liberal flag," he said. Few would dissent from the proposition that Biko, dead, has become a metaphor, but was this really right by claiming that he is by now a dead metaphor?

Priti Paintal's own rebuttal of the case is, she contends, based on personal connection with their subject matter. "This is an extremely personal opera," she said. "It's really about my own experience of living and working in Britain, where there is apartheid, especially in the world of classical music. The fact that there's no actual legislation about it doesn't make it any less dangerous. The opera is saying to black people, you have to have pride in your own roots and your own culture. Politics and art follow different standards, yet both bow to the

The Independent

Next in Central Asia:

# A serious energy scramble

Inter-power competition for the control of the energy resources in Central Asia may provide the fuse for future conflict.

By Sajid Rizvi

LONDON — If the inter-ethnic disputes don't fragment the resurgent new republics of Central Asia, a growing international wrangle over their oil and gas wealth may prove to be the greatest threat to the region's security.

The possibility of an inter-power struggle centered on the energy resources in Central Asia has driven diplomats, businessmen and strategists back to their drawing boards. Many of these resources are unexploited and valued to be worth billions of dollars in hard currency.

The risk of real conflict is palpable and is reflected in the regional centers of government and the pronouncements of their representatives.

The perception of that risk alone may predetermine the policies and negotiations of regional and outside powers seeking to establish their credentials in the new republics.

The biggest danger apparently stems from the conviction in the West, in the non-Asian republics of the former Soviet Union and in the southern neighboring states of Iran and Turkey that Central Asia cannot manage its resources without continued outside help.

Russian and western offers of assistance, many of them unsolicited, have proved to be particularly overwhelming in the case of Kazakhstan, which has rich oil reserves. One Kazakh source said many of the offers were being made "in such a way that they sound like orders."

The Kazakh discomfort with active outside interest in its oil reserves has been further accentuated by reported Chinese moves to reassert claims on parts of Kazakhstan, particularly the oil-rich areas. This has obvious implications for Kazakh defence strategies for the future and, in the view of independent analysts, it complicates diplomatic efforts to divest Kazakhstan of nuclear arsenal inherited from the USSR.

More than 100 SS-18 long-range nuclear missiles, each with 10 warheads, are believed to be in Kazakhstan. At least half of these are scheduled to be scrapped under the terms of the strategic arms treaty reached between the United States and the Soviet Union before the latter disbanded last year.

But Kazakh fears of Chinese and Russian "designs" on the republic's energy resources are becoming more pronounced. Although some diplomats cite this as a Kazakh "ruse" to support the nation's claim to a continued nuclear presence, there do exist strong indications that both the Russians and the Chinese may be interested in the oilfields.

"This interest may not culminate in an outright takeover attempt," said one analyst. "But it

does show Kazakhstan in a vulnerable position. Nuclear weapons will work against that vulnerability and fortify the country against outside pressure."

The Kazakh oil issue is likely to be projected also on the country's relations with its two powerful neighbours, Iran and Turkey. Both have unhesitatingly cast ideological or cultural spells on the newly born republic. While some Iranian officials believe that the Islamic republic's long-standing record as an oil power gives it an edge over Turkey, Turkey is keen to foster a closer relationship with Kazakhstan, as with other republics. Turkey's experience with the production and processing of oil may be limited, but the country enjoys full backing of public and private western interests which are keen to establish their presence in Central Asia.

Already, Iran-Turkish ties are seen to be under strain due to a growing divergence in the two countries' respective goals.

While Iran obviously would like to cement what it sees as natural ties with Islamic Central Asia — contacts that Tehran policymakers believe were never interrupted by communism — Turkey evidently sees the potential for a Turkish commonwealth in Central Asia. Already, Turkish money is flowing freely into Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, and Turkish companies are

## Central Asian republics

The collapse of communism has brought a resurgence of Islam to central Asia. Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Pakistan and India are competing for influence in the mostly Islamic republics of the former Soviet Union.

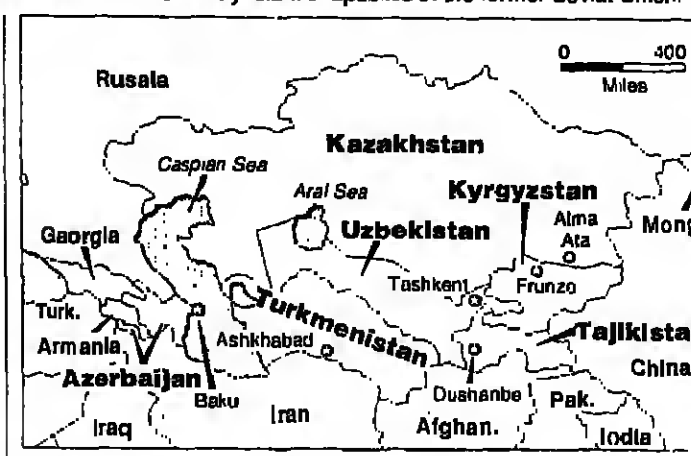
**Kazakhstan**  
Population: 18.5 million  
Ethnic groups: 38% Kazakh, 41% Russian, 23% other  
Par-capita GNP: \$3,720

**Uzbekistan**  
Population: 19.9 million  
Ethnic groups: 69% Uzbek, 11% Russian, 20% other  
Par-capita GNP: \$2,750

**Turkmenistan**  
Population: 3.5 million  
Ethnic groups: 88% Turkmen, 13% Russian, 19% other  
Par-capita GNP: \$3,370

**Azerbaijan**  
Population: 7 million  
Ethnic groups: 78% Azerbaijani, 8% Russian, 8% Armenian, 6% other  
Par-capita GNP: \$3,750

SOURCE: Chicago Tribune, news reports



**Kyrgyzstan**  
Population: 4.2 million  
Ethnic groups: 48% Kyrgyz, 26% Russian, 12% Uzbek, 14% others  
Par-capita GNP: \$3,030

**Tajikistan**  
Population: 5.1 million  
Ethnic groups: 59% Tajik, 23% Uzbek, 10% Russian, 2% Tatar, 6% others  
Par-capita GNP: \$2,340

competing for a slice of action in the newly independent states.

It is not clear what direction the Iran-Turkish rivalry would take in the near future, but Iran already is having second thoughts about routing its westbound gas exports through Turkey. Instead, there have been indications that Iran may want to build a new gas pipeline to Europe through Azerbaijan and Ukraine. This would be a blow to the Turkish economy, since Turkey hoped in use at least some of the gas for its own industry. Already, Russia has served notice on Ankara that it wants to re-negotiate its own gas barter agreement, which allowed the two countries to buy various goods in addition to natural gas

from each other.

Further complicating the regional scramble for energy-related links, western interest in the area's oil and gas deposits has not been insignificant. Earlier this year the new republic of Uzbekistan signed a contract with the Seattle-based Conoco oil company for the exploitation of its oilfields, but another possible deal between Chevron and the republic of Kazakhstan seems in doubt.

The Kazakhstan deal, first discussed between President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in 1989, is said to be worth several billions of dollars and has raised the prospect that it may be incorporated in any future arrangement between the United States and Kazakhstan over nuclear weapons, regional security and US participation in the Kazakh economy.

The feeling among Central Asia observers is that the chief players in the region are all bent upon exacting the best possible terms for themselves, not only to guarantee their position vis-a-vis the new states but also to safeguard their interests. In pursuing their objectives, these players may be sowing the seeds of future discord and armed conflict. ■

Academic File

Sajid Rizvi is the managing editor of Academic File.

## Steve Biko: A man of many parts

In life Biko inspired his followers, in death he has inspired movies, books, songs and now an opera

By Kevin Jackson

STEVE BIKO'S body lies a-mouldering in the grave, but his life story goes on marching on. In the 15 years since the founder of South Africa's Black Consciousness Movement died at the hands of the Security Police in Port Elizabeth, Biko has become a staple for contemporary writers and artists. So much of a staple, in fact, that the latest instance — an opera, *Biko*, by the composer Priti Paintal and the librettist Richard Fawkes — has already been dismissed by one British critic, as a piece of routine, if not downright knee-jerk liberalism.

At first sight it may seem odd that Biko's story has proved such a seductive and enduring one for artists of all kinds. After all, he was obscure in international terms and his various projects were still in their infancy at the time of his death. It takes only a little reflection, though, to see that this actually contributes to Biko's present status in the arts.

As Richard Fawkes puts it, when asked to explain why he and his collaborator picked up on events which are now a decade and a half old, "the thing about Biko that appealed to me... is that he

doesn't conform to the standard Freedom Fighter image. Steve Biko was much more of a philosopher, more in the Gandhi tradition. What he wanted was not to replace white rule with black rule, but for people to learn to live together as equals."

To put it callously, Biko's story has some great selling points. It may well be that it is a desire to wave the liberal flag which draws artists to his life, but what holds them is the simple fact that he died violently and he died young, aged only 31.

Apart from the new Paintal/Fawkes opera, Richard Attenborough's *Cry Freedom* and Donald Woods' gaff-blowing biography *Biko*, there have been, *inter alia*, a play for stage and television, *The Biko Inquest*, written by Jon Blair and Norman Fenton and directed by Albert Finney, and a substantial number of poems, including Mandela's *Langa's They No Longer Speak to Us in Song* (in *Memorial to Steve Biko*). Musicians have also been prompted to swell the chorus. In the wake of Peter Gabriel's plaintive pop anthem "Biko" have come a clutch of tributes and cover versions. In short, a shrewd observer of the arts might have concluded long ago that the composition of a

Biko opera sooner or later was not so much on the cards as inevitable.

Composer Paintal is well aware that she is following a well-trodden road with this subject, but is adamant about the need for yet another version: "Why an opera, after a film, a book, whatever? Well, has it ever been done from a black perspective? That's the answer. It's an opera from a black person, about a black person. It was very disappointed with 'Cry Freedom' because it was supposed to be about Biko, but it wasn't. It was about Donald Woods. It was a thriller about a white guy escaping the system."

Addressing as it does the relatively tiny audience of modern opera fans, Biko is unlikely to whip up widespread support. Weeks before her work had even gone into rehearsal, Priti Paintal was already receiving incoming critical fire.

One critic explained that his criticism was not so much with the music as with the banality of the opera's text, particularly a line which spoke of being "free as birds." "Such images are now in the realm of dead metaphor, so commonplace as to say nothing. But then there's a sense in which Steve Biko himself has easily be-

come a dead metaphor, a dead symbol, used as a convenient liberal flag," he said. Few would dissent from the proposition that Biko, dead, has become a metaphor, but was this really right by claiming that he is by now a dead metaphor?

Priti Paintal's own rebuttal of the case is, she contends, based on personal connection with their subject matter. "This is an extremely personal opera," she said. "It's really about my own experience of living and working in Britain, where there is apartheid, especially in the world of classical music. The fact that there's no actual legislation about it doesn't make it any less dangerous. The opera is saying to black people, you have to have pride in your own roots and your own culture. Politics and art follow different standards, yet both bow to the

power of martyrdom, and Biko's killing helps keep him fresh as a metaphor for artists today. Whenever one hears the Mandela, his name is always there, and thanks to his early death, he's more secure in people's admiration than Mandela. But will his memory continue to be followed in this way? In one sense, it seems likely. The inescapable paradoxes of Biko's life — as a man who spoke up for peace but died a brutal death, a man who was kept in isolation but influenced thousands — will no doubt continue to draw artists and politicians, as tales of martyrs always have. Yet the possibility none the less remains that his name will one day be forgotten, and — there is a quieter paradox here — that eventually could be a happy one. ■

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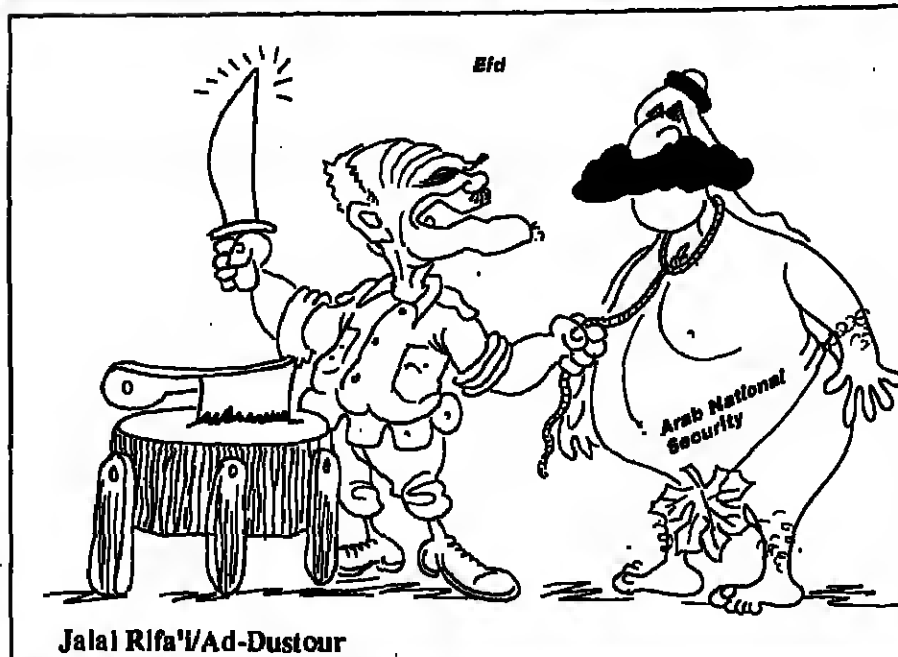
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Eastern Art  
Report





Jalal Rifa'Ad-Dustour

## Our Say....

### A vision for the future

IT IS a pity that Arab rivalries and the widening rifts that are polarizing the Arab world today will deny most Arabs the opportunity of understanding the message of His Majesty King Hussein, which he echoed in his historic speech at Mu'ta University this week. For the Hashemite King was not addressing Jordanians only, but he was appealing to the conscience of all Arabs, both leaders and citizens, at this delicate juncture in the history of this part of the world.

At the same time the King's speech makes every Jordanian proud to belong to this small-sized Arab country with its limited resources but with its unending reservoir of courage and unyielding commitment to its principles. Jordan has not sold out on these principles and for this it has endured the wrath of both kin and foe for its unrelenting posture. It is in that sense that Jordan, under the King, sets an example to other Arabs. In this day and age, where the survival of the leadership no longer depends on perpetuating repression and solidifying dictatorship, but is intrinsically aligned with power-sharing and democratic government, Jordan's way of life becomes a viable path to follow.

The King's speech opens new horizons for young Jordanians in a liberal and open environment where intellectual endeavor is not a liability, but an asset. And just as this small country, under the Hashemites, is the legal heir to the principles of the Great Arab Revolt, whose reverberations we can still feel today, modern Jordan will guide other Arabs towards a new revolt that will remove the shackles of prejudice, tribalism and monopoly of the wealth of the nation and break the yoke of servitude.

The Arabs today have two options. One is to regurgitate the past and wander in an endless maze of bitter inter-Arab conflict motivated by greed, envy and narrow self-interest. The other is to look ahead and beyond the present, with the aim of facing up to the looming challenges, becoming a part of a changing world and coping with the economic, social and political evolutions that are sweeping the globe north and south, east and west.

This visionary approach is what Jordan proposes. The Gulf War has inundated the Arab world in a sea of hatred and suspicion that has driven a wedge into its very heart. The results of these divisions are easy to point out: A collapsing Arab Order, isolationism, regionalism, economic warfare, the strangulation of the peoples of Iraq, Palestine and Lebanon, foreign intervention and the rise of Israeli hegemony over the region as a whole.

It is no longer enough to appeal to Arab leaderships to put an end to this bleak era in our history. The hope rests with the bringing up of educated and enlightened Arabs who see the world not through distorting lenses, but with clarity and depth, objectively not subjectively; scientifically not emotionally.

We in Jordan are proud because so far we have succeeded in breeding a new generation of Jordanians who possess that vision and who live today in a democratic country where men are equal before the law and where the National Charter is the final arbiter. We are proud because we have lived in honor, unwilling to bloody our hands in fratricidal killings and where we opted to suffer, besieged by "brothers" and enemies alike, rather than becoming accomplices in an ugly conspiracy.

We have emerged tougher than before and we speak loudly and confidently because we know that, among the many things oil money cannot buy, is an honorable place in history and in the collective memory of a nation. Jordan's bet throughout its young history was on its people and on the sanctity of its principles; and it has been a winning bet throughout.

## Letter from Tokyo

### Japan's music: Nippon's melancholy

By Crocker Snow, Jr

SQUADRONS OF tufted ducks bob and dive in near unison in the northeast corner of the moat that surrounds the storied Imperial Palace in central Tokyo. A half-mile away, at another quadrant of the moat near the corner of Hibiya Park, a ragged flock of spoonbills skim the water to feed with their enlarged bills.

The scene is a commentary both on the environmental improvement of what was, two decades ago, one of the world's most polluted cities (where even the Imperial moat wasn't clean enough for ducks) and the importance in Japan of territorial imperative and the order of things.

Amid all the apparent change in this intense metropolis, regimentation remains: the tufted ducks at one end of the moat, the spoonbills at the other; play by the rules; obey species and tribal custom; and respect the boundaries of same.

But if Tokyo waterfowl still get the word, it's less apparent if the other inhabitants of this city of 12 million do. This sense of order, regimentation and predictability is under siege by the twin economic and political maladies with which the nation now is affected.

A deep melancholia now prevails in the Marunouchi section, abutting the palace moat, which is the world's largest and most concentrated financial district (real and leveraged) in the world.

The yin and the yang of Japan today lies in the dichotomy between its near-superhuman international image and its increasingly discredited internal body politic. This dichotomy is pervasive. It is one of style and substance, and applies in equal parts economic and political.

In the US for instance, Japan has assumed the role of King Kong in the eyes of business and government, press and labor alike. In the movies, the media, and even popular literature (most recently represented by Michael Crichton's *Rising Sun*, about a Japanese specter haunting the US) Japan has become the forbidding, foreboding economic adversary nonpareil. For the American psyche, Japan is the surrogate economic adversary replacing the late, lamented political and ideological adversary so long represented by the Soviet Union. In the nightmare of imagined threats, the Japanese salesman has replaced the Soviet commissar and the Japanese multinational has replaced the Soviet military-industrial complex.

But today's economic realities of Japan belie this formidable, even frightening, overseas image. The nation is suddenly beset with negative indicators and burdened with a plunging stock market, growing corporate and individual bankruptcies, a continuing drop in car sales, and a flattening GNP. A computerized self-doubt is beginning to consume the nation's business and government leadership. It is underscored by the media, which both lead and reflect establishment thinking more than in any other advanced, industrial country.

The turn around from a sense of success to the realization of stagnation is a phenomenon for which the current, Japanese generation is unprepared. It is a shock to the system and to the order of things.

On the political front the same contrast applies. Foreign ministries and academic seminars and learned journals in Europe and the US are concerned with questions

of Japan's emerging role in the world: its drive for political influence commensurate with its economic one; again, the reality of the times is decidedly different. The nation's own political preoccupations have moved rapidly away from questions of manifest international destiny to ones of domestic disarray.

Within the cozy confines of the Kasumigaseki district of Tokyo, where the government ministries are clustered, the buzz is of an embarrassing and revealing series of domestic political scandals. The political landscape is pockmarked with now-obsolete volcanoes: The surprising Recruit scandal of the late 1980s has been followed by the now equally infamous Kyo-wa and Sagawa affairs. Each involves elements of bribery, payoffs and kickbacks by business interests to the highest-ranking members of the long-ruling and dominant Liberal Democratic Party in return for commercial favors. Three of the last five prime ministers have been tainted by financial scandals.

Japan's proud and chauvinistic self-image is declining almost as precipitously as the nation's inflated stock market. There is new acknowledgment that the nation's long-stable political system is neither truly democratic nor clean. It is lubricated by commercial dollars and favors and peopled by an aging professional political class that has become victimized by the expense and expectations of staying in office.

Japan is not the robust kingdom, the miscent bloc hully that the world around it has come to both fear and favor. It is becoming embroiled with its own deepening internal, emotional crisis.

In 1969, Richard Halloran, then correspondent in Tokyo and now the director of special projects and journalism programs for the Honolulu-based East West Center, wrote a book entitled *Japan Images and Reality*. The forward included the perceptive and prescient words: "The Japanese have a concept called *kuronaku*, which means 'black curtain' and is taken from Kabuki theatre. It means that reality is not out front but behind the scenes... Americans should not expect Western ideas, especially those that touch the heart like religion, philosophy, and political thought, to penetrate the cultural consciousness of Asian peoples."

The stark contrast between Japanese image and reality exists today. But it is mostly the contrast between how Japan is seen internationally and how it is coping domestically.

Tokyo's native waterfowl community has regained its regimented, ritual place in the water of the Imperial moat. The city's government and commercial and media community who surround the place are in need themselves of pollution control to freshen the environment.

Crocker Snow, Jr. is the publisher of WorldPaper, Boston.



## Philip Habib

### A diplomat frustrated by his own government's immoral stands

By Phillip Frazer

PHILIP HABIB reached the pinnacle of his professional life by negotiating a short-lived peace between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in 1981.

A Lebanese Maronite Christian, Habib grew up in a mainly Jewish section of Brooklyn, New York. He spent almost 30 years in the US Foreign Service, rising to prominence in Vietnam in the late 1960s where he worked with the then US Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger.

Kissinger praised Habib's "acumen and irreverence," but there is little detail of his accomplishments. This is part of being a "great foreign service officer," as Kissinger described Habib, but more specifically, it is because most of the important international discussions in which Habib was a participant were subjected to extensive and lengthy embargoes on release of information—a contributing factor to the US government's being enclaved by some "the national security state."

The New York Times described Habib as having been "involved in the behind-the-scenes politics in Washington that eventually led President Johnson in 1968 to press for a negotiated end to the war...." In fact, the impetus behind Johnson's withdrawal from politics, and his unsuccessful efforts to win down the war, was the Vietnamese National Liberation Front's 1968 Tet Offensive. Members of the US elite did urge Johnson to change the course of the war and Habib was a voice in that chorus.

Habib's most memorable role in world affairs came after his retirement from the State Department, where he was Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs from 1976 to 1977.

Shortly after retiring he was named President Ronald Reagan's special envoy to the Middle East. At the President's behest, Ha-



bib went to Beirut in 1981 to broker a cease-fire between the PLO and Israel. Noam Chomsky, the author, who, in the US, is a rare voice of persistent criticism of Israel, points out that while Israeli leaders resist "any trace of an organized Palestinian presence," Palestinian rockets were causing Israeli casualties—thus making a cease-fire attractive.

In July 1981, dealing through the Saudis, Habib got the PLO and the Israeli Prime Minister, Menachem Begin, and Defence Minister, Ariel Sharon, to sign the cease-fire. The PLO kept the cease-fire despite repeated Israeli provocations, including bombing raids on Palestinian communities.

The Israelis were eager to fulfill a long-term goal of installing a pro-Israeli, Christian government in Lebanon. They found their excuse in an attempt to assassinate the Israeli ambassador to London in June 1982. The would-be assassin was actually working for the anti-PLO Abu Nidal, but Israeli tanks rolled into Lebanon anyway.

Israel claimed that their invasion killed only 340 people while the Lebanese national police put the death toll at 19,085. Whatever the reality, the invasion became a public relations disaster for Israel.

## Multinational mammoths woo native mice

By Maryam Schiller

NEITHER the economic indicators nor indeed the policies of the world's industrialized countries hold much promise for the developing world in need of cash, technology transfer or new markets for its manufactures.

But, outside the public sector, there are tidings of a sea change. By far the most unexpected development has been the shift in the multinationals' strategy towards the developing world.

While, until recently, the multinational giants were reluctant to get seriously involved in the developing countries judged to be unstable or underdeveloped, they are now looking with growing interest at the latter.

The new approach towards the developing world stems from changes in the multinational companies' perception of small-scale enterprises (SSEs), whether based in their native countries or abroad.

This approach is in spite of vast differences between partners—not only in terms of size and scale involved but also with regard to production methods, quality control, markets and above all management.

Where the two sides have met almost halfway, the results have been spectacular. In Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela, a US-based chain store company has helped hundreds of small enterprises to expand and improve their production. As a result, most if not all of the goods sold currently in the company's stores in Latin America are locally made

or have a high local content.

In Botswana, a multinational bank has reversed its traditional reluctance to make loans to small business, relaxing its usual stringent requirements for collateral by providing a partial guarantee from its own development fund. In Kenya and Zimbabwe, the same bank has set up a special department to deliver services to SSEs.

As a study by David L. Wright of the Overseas Development Institute in London reveals, examples of such collaboration are becoming numerous. One optimistic view is that this kind of interchange of ideas, expertise and labor can in fact become one of the prime movers in the developing countries' quest for economic recovery.

Wright identifies two main reasons for the trend. One, of course, is the changing attitudes of multinationals, either in response to sustained criticism of their role in the global economy or due to a self-scrutiny long overdue.

The other is the increasing recognition of the crucial contribution small enterprises can make to creating jobs, and thus helping economic recovery. Most industrial strategies so far have aimed at creating blocks of jobs, rather than a few at a time.

The multinationals were first welcomed with open arms by developing countries, but by the 1970s they came to be seen as exploiters of vulnerable economies. Then during the 1980s the pendulum swung again: as Wright points out, developing countries "have once more come to value, albeit with considerable caution, the substantial economic and technological contri-

In August 1982, with Israeli forces surrounding Beirut, Habib negotiated a US peace-keeping force and a PLO withdrawal from Lebanon. Habib promised that the US would protect the people of Lebanon. In September 1983, the US withdrew and almost immediately Israeli forces ushered the Phalange troops into the Sabra-Chatila refugee camp in Beirut, where they massacred more than 1,000 Palestinians.

Habib, protective of his reputation as an honest broker, was angered by Sharon's duplicity and brutality. He returned to the US and his place as Middle East envoy was taken by Robert McFarlane. It was under McFarlane and George Schultz, the then Secretary of State, that the US peace-keeping forces bombed Druze villages from the aircraft carrier New Jersey, leading to the revenge attack on the US marine barracks in Beirut.

In 1987 President Reagan once again called on Habib to negotiate, this time in Central America where the US was arming and financing the El Salvadoran Army as well as the Contras who were attempting to overthrow the government of Nicaragua. In August 1987, the Central American peace accords were signed, banning all outside aid to all insurgents in the region—against the strenuous objections of the US and its envoy, Philip Habib. Immediately after the accord was signed, the Reagan administration stepped up flights of arms and supplies to the Contras. The same month Habib retired from active involvement in government.

Just days before his death in France, Habib surprised his colleagues at the Bilderberg Conference with a speech about America's need to stand by its moral principles.

Philip Charles Habib, diplomat, born New York City 25 February 1920, died Pulgry-Montrachet France 26 May 1992.

bulion MNEs can make."

The rich/poor, big/small relationship between the multinationals and the smaller enterprises is not without problems, however. One key question to have emerged in the new situation is how best to do it without running up costs and without turning the role of multinationals into charities. "This sort of thing can often be a bottomless pit," said one analyst. "The multinationals don't want their small collaborators to become dependent on them. They want them to become financially self-sustaining."

Two options have been tried: promotion through government assistance and through private organizations. Neither has been wholly successful.

The third option is to increase linkages within each country between small businesses and the subsidiaries of multinationals "with their unique combination of international experience, professional management, substantial resources, high political profile and growing sense of social responsibility."

More and more, Wright points out, multinationals have recognized that they have wider social environmental and political responsibilities than just to themselves and their shareholders.

Despite these positive developments, most experts agree that complacency at this stage may yet reverse the trend. "There is still an overriding need to watch over the multinationals, their performance and their behavior in developing economies," said one expert. "Their track record is patchy. Not long ago they were hugely unpopular, and criticized for all sorts of wrongdoing." If they deliver the goods, however, multinationals may just be the world leaders in economic recovery on an unprecedented scale.

Academic File

## Regional ROUND-UP

AMMAN —The foreign ministers of Jordan, Syria and Lebanon and head of the PLO's Political Department held a two-day meeting in Amman to decide on their position at the sixth round of peace talks with Israel. Jordan's Kamal Abu Jaber, Syria's Farouq Sharaa, Lebanon's Fares Bouez and PLO's Farouq Qadoomi made evaluated the peace process and discussed closer co-ordination between their countries in the next round of peace negotiations. Lebanon's Foreign Minister Fares Bouez said upon arrival in Amman for the meeting that it carried special importance because the region has entered a crucial stage where, the Arabs were exerting continued efforts towards peace while Israel continued to block the process. The meeting was overshadowed by Israel's continued clamp down against Palestinians in the occupied Gaza Strip and air raids on South Lebanon. The foreign ministers decided to call an emergency meeting of the Arab League to discuss the Israeli aggressions on Lebanon.



Fares Bouez

TEL AVIV—Labour Party leader Yitzhak Rabin said that he would be willing to return some of the Golan Heights to Syria. He said his determination to keep Israeli troops on the Golan Heights did not preclude territorial compromise. Meanwhile, with voting in Israel's general elections approaching, the latest batch of opinion polls showed labour's lead over Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Party narrowing. Pollsters for the Dahaf Agency gave Likud and smaller right-wing parties a majority of 62 seats in the 120-member parliament.

BAHRAIN — Iraq has finally submitted what it said a full, final and comprehensive report on its program to develop weapons of mass destruction. The report was required by the Security Council under provisions of the UN ceasefire resolutions that ended the Gulf war. Dhimtri Perrelos, leader of the UN team of inspectors, reserved judgement on the report, saying "until we see and study the document, no one can say it is a full, final and comprehensive report yet."

DAMASCUS — Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Al Solh made a visit to Damascus during which he met Syrian officials for talks on rising tension in South Lebanon as a result of continued Israeli air raids, bilateral relations and the Middle East process.

KABUL — Calm returned to Kabul after government forces intervened the separate fighters of two rival factions which fought for four days. At least 100 people have been killed and 400 wounded in the fighting between Hezb-e-Wahadat, supported by Iran, and its rival Ittihad-e-Islami party.

BAGHDAD — Iraq's Al Jumhuriyya newspaper belittled the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) efforts to topple Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and said the Iraqi people are shielding the president. The paper was commenting on a Los Angeles Times news report which said the US administration has raised the CIA's budget slated to bring down the Iraqi leader from \$15 million to \$40 million. Meanwhile, The Washington Post said the US administration had documents that proved that Iraq had harbored well-known terrorist Abu Nidal during the 1980s. Iraq had denied that it had given refuge to the Palestinian renegade.



# Le Jourdain

Section française du Star

Relations soviéto-arabes

## Luc Barbulesco: le double jeu de l'ex-URSS

Ce spécialiste français a récemment tenu conférence à la fondation Schomane. Le thème: les liens qui se dénouent petit à petit entre l'ex-URSS et le monde arabe

"AVEC l'arrivée de Gorbatchev, l'URSS ne base plus sa politique étrangère sur l'idéologie, mais sur des questions d'intérêt mutuel" affirme Luc Barbulesco. Une phrase clé dans le raisonnement de ce chercheur français, qui a récemment tenu conférence à la Fondation Schomane d'Amman. Sujet: la prise de distance de l'URSS et maintenant de la Fédération de Russie vis-à-vis du monde arabe. Une distance qui est devenue "rupture" pendant la guerre du Golfe.

Au départ, ce spécialiste français du monde arabe, auteur d'une thèse sur l'Égypte à l'Institut d'Études Politiques (IEP) de Paris, prend appui sur des faits. Ou sur des petites déclarations qui sont en fait déterminantes. En Avril 1987, Gorbatchev reçoit à Moscou le président syrien Hafez-el-Assad. Lors d'un dîner officiel, le numéro un du Kremlin affirme que son pays accorde désormais la première place aux considérations d'intérêt mutuel. Selon Luc Barbulesco, le message est limpide. Damas ne doit plus escompter de soutien inconditionnel de la part des Soviétiques.

### La "porte américaine"

Le deuxième indice réside dans un dialogue datant de septembre 1989, tiré de "El Zillal" (NDLR: "Le tremblement de terre"). L'auteur égyptien, journaliste, ex-conseiller de Nasser, Mohammed Hassanin Haykal, va passer deux semaines à Moscou où il n'a pas remis les pieds depuis 20 ans. Il rencontre un responsable soviétique du ministère des Affaires étrangères. "Pouvez-vous évaluer l'intérêt que l'URSS continue à porter aux pays du tiers-monde?" questionne-t-il. Son interlocuteur hésite. Apparemment, il n'est ni en troisième ni en troisième lieu.

Heu...

L'Égyptien revient à la charge: "Donnez-moi un pourcentage?"

Réponse: "Cela représente 1% de nos actions".

Le responsable du ministère nuance ses propos, et précise qu'à ce moment là, le monde arabe continue...

sentir un certain intérêt pour la politique étrangère soviétique: il est devenu une espèce de "porte américaine".

Selon le spécialiste français, le véritable tournant arrive avec la guerre du Golfe. A partir d'août 1990, juste après l'invasion du Koweït, l'Irak s'attend à recevoir un soutien "au moins moral", de la part de l'URSS. Tarek Aziz, plus proche conseiller de Saddam Hussein entreprend plusieurs voyages à Moscou. Dans le même temps, Bygueni Primakov, envoyé spécial de Gorbatchev réalise des "missions secrètes" à Washington.

"A chaque fois qu'il se présente devant les journalistes, il est hilare, note Luc Barbulesco, cela veut dire qu'il n'a jamais songé à jouer vraiment le rôle de médiateur". Pourtant, le 15 janvier 1991, à la veille du déclenchement de la guerre, Gorbatchev présente encore un plan pour la paix. "Tout cela était une simple couverture" affirme Luc

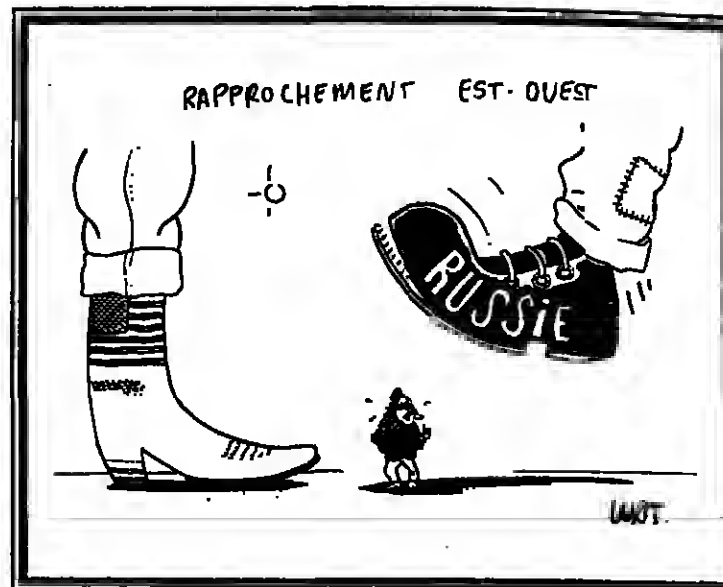
en défenseur des Arabes et des causes arabes. Au premier rang desquelles, on trouve la cause palestinienne" affirme Luc Barbulesco. De l'autre côté, les États-Unis affichaient un "soutien indéfectible à Israël". Selon le spécialiste français, la crise du Golfe a révélé d'autres stratégies plus ca-

**"C'est clair, ils voulaient devenir les alliés des USA"**

Barbulesco.

De fait, c'est tout un système qui s'écroule. "Dès le début de la guerre du Golfe, Moscou s'était posé

Barbulesco va encore plus loin. Selon lui, l'URSS a toujours joué un double jeu. L'axe Damas, Bag-



### Télex... Jordanie

**ASSASSINAT** - Le leader de l'OLP, Yasser Arafat accusé lundi à Amman les services secrets israéliens (Mossad), d'être à l'origine de l'assassinat, dimanche soir à Paris, d'un collaborateur de l'OLP, Yasser Arafat a décrit la victime, Atef Bteiso, directeur par intérim du service de sécurité de l'OLP, comme "l'un de nos héros".

**SESSION** - La session extraordinaire du Parlement doit ouvrir le 20 juin prochain, conformément à un décret royal, a déclaré lundi le président de la Chambre basse, Abdul Latif Arabiyat. Deux sujets majeurs: le projet de loi sur les partis politiques et celui sur la réglementation de la presse et des publications.

**ESCWA** - A la tribune du Sommet de la terre de Rio de Janeiro, le Secrétaire Exécutif de l'ESCWA, Tayseer Abdel Jaber a prononcé le discours des cinq commissions régionales des Nations Unies. Il a souligné leur intention de mettre en œuvre les recommandations et résolutions du Sommet de la terre concernant le droit des pays à un développement écologiquement acceptable.

### A VOIR...

**EXPO** - Peintures de Patrice Pain, jusqu'au mardi 22 juin au Centre culturel français.

**MUSIQUE** - Dans le cadre de la Fête de la Musique, dimanche 21/06 à 17h00, le CCF propose "Les Misérables", dessin animé musical d'après l'œuvre de Victor Hugo, sur une musique de Jean-Jacques Debout. Le même jour à 20h00, "Souvenirs Souvenirs", un film sur les années 60.

**CINEMA** - La Nuit du Cinéma, au CCF, jeudi 25 juin. A 20h00, "La femme secrète", de Sébastien Grall, avec Philippe Noiret, Jacques Bonnafant, Catherine Clément. A 22h30, "Poussière d'ange" de Edouard Nicomans, avec Bernard Giraudeau et Panny Cottençon.

F.M.

La page européenne

## L'Ecu aide l'agriculture jordanienne

Chaque mois, "Le Jourdain" a décidé de se pencher sur l'actualité européenne. Un nouveau rendez-vous indispensable, à quelques jours de l'ouverture du grand marché. Cette semaine, gros plan sur la politique d'aide de la CEE à l'agriculture jordanienne. Reportage

"NOUS menons des actions en faveur du développement, dans le secteur agricole, notre objectif est de favoriser l'insuffisance alimentaire" affirme Henk Smit, directeur de la CEE en Jordanie. "Tous ces dossiers ne sont pas séparés les uns des autres, précise un collaborateur de la CEE, ils s'inscrivent dans un plan d'ensemble d'aide à la Jordanie". Nous suivons l'intérêt du pays, ajoute Henk Smit, mais nous ne sommes pas là pour imposer nos idées.

### Projet Awassi

Le premier, "Projet d'amélioration de la race ovine Awassi" touche à sa fin. Une mission d'évaluation de la CEE doit sortir un rapport à la fin du mois de juin. Les objectifs de départ ont-ils été tenus? Il s'agissait d'augmenter la production jordanienne de viande rouge (ainsi que la production de lait). "Nous aurons notre propre consommation en viande à hauteur de 20%", déclare Esam Qararah, directeur du service des projets de la Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO). Il ajoute: "Dans l'idéal, nous aurions besoin de 40.000 tonnes de viande rouge par an". Le Royaume est bien loin du compte, avec environ 10.000 tonnes de production locale.

Le projet, qui date de 1987, a reçu l'aide financière de la Communauté européenne. La CEE a versé un don de 2 millions d'écus. La Banque Européenne d'investissement a participé sous la forme d'un prêt de 3 millions d'écus à un projet parallèle pour "l'engraisement des agneaux".

Ce dossier a mis du temps à trouver sa vitesse de croisière. Le contratant français, Actini International, a retardé sa participation en raison de la guerre du Golfe. Mais "la Communauté nous a aidé et a résolu nos problèmes" affirme Esam Qararah de la JCO. Après quatre années de fonctionnement, ce projet commence à porter ses fruits.

Selon la JCO, pour la seule année 1991, la production de viande rouge a sensiblement augmenté. "Nous avons participé à cette hausse pour 10%", soutient Esam Qararah, nous avons apporté 1.000 tonnes de plus sur le marché local".

Le "Projet d'amélioration de la race ovine Awassi" doit maintenant faire face à un certain nombre d'obstacles. Cette année la JCO a déjà acheté 600 femelles. La coopérative jordanienne doit en acheter 200 de plus dans les semaines qui viennent. Mais

cela ne semble pas suffisant. "Nous avons besoin de 1.500 femelles supplémentaires" lâche Esam Qararah. Objectif: augmenter leur nombre autant que possible pour pouvoir faire une sélection satisfaisante.

### Le désert vert

Autre question incontournable: la production de fourrage. "Nous ne pouvons pas fournir de la viande rouge sans fourrage" affirme Jamal Abu Nahleh, expert agricole à la JCO. Ce qui pose également la question de l'eau. "Si l'on prend la station de Ma'in par exemple, il faut trois semaines pour arroser toute la zone, car nous manquons de canalisations". Ce problème devra être étudié par la mission d'experts de la CEE.

La question de l'eau? La Communauté y apporte également sa contribution. Constat de départ: sur une superficie d'environ 9 millions d'hectares, 10% des terres de Jordanie reçoivent plus de 200 mm de précipitations. Ce qui est le strict minimum pour entretenir une agriculture stable.

Depuis 1984, la faculté d'Agriculture de l'Université de Jordanie étudie la possibilité de cultiver dans les "zones arides et

semi-arides". C'est-à-dire entre 100 et 200 mm. En 1985, la CEE s'est greffée sur le projet. La Communauté a lancé deux programmes spéciaux pour établir une station de recherche à Muwasqar. Ce village, à 50 km au sud-est d'Amman, est situé sur la ligne de partage des eaux entre le mer morte et le bassin d'Azraq. "Nous travaillons sur une bande de 200 hectares, affirme Dr Awri Taimch, mais si vous prenez toute la zone, la terre cache 5 millions de m3 de ressources en eau".

La Communauté européenne a accordé deux dons pour ces recherches menées par la faculté d'Agriculture de l'Université de Jordanie en collaboration avec le ministère de l'Agriculture. Le premier, qui s'élève à 300.000 Ecus, provient du SDT, le programme de développement de la CEE pour la Science et la Technologie.

Le "Programme pour la lutte contre la faim dans le monde" est à l'origine d'un deuxième enveloppe de 700.000 Ecus. La semaine dernière, Henk Smit, expert agricole de Bruxelles, a visité cette immense zone verte qui contraste avec les paysages désertiques environnants. Il a écouté avec attention les expli-

cations du Dr Awri Taimch, spécialiste de l'Université de Jordanie. Avec des techniques simples, telles que celle du barrage ou du mur de pierre, il est possible de canaliser l'eau et de lutter contre la désertification. "Quatre ans auparavant, personne ne croyait qu'il y avait de l'eau ici" assure le Dr Taimch. Ses projets sont ambitieux: "Sur ce terrain, nous pouvons accueillir des fermiers, ils pourront planter des arbres fruitiers, des oliviers..." La CEE a dressé un pont entre les différentes autorités jordanienues qui participent au projet. Elle continue à plaider pour un désert vert. Un nouvel accord de gestion prévoit l'octroi de 2 millions d'écus, sous forme de dons, pour soutenir ce projet sur une période de 4 ans. Ce nouveau programme inclut une assistance technique, qui devrait entrer en application au début de l'année prochaine. La balle est maintenant dans le camp du gouvernement qui peut décider ou non d'utiliser ces techniques à une plus grande échelle.

### La carte des sols

Un autre dossier, financé par la CEE, actuellement aux rails, étudie déjà les emplacements

possibles pour des cultures en "zones arides et semi-arides". Le "National soil map and use project" signé en décembre 1988 a reçu un don de la CEE de 3,64 millions d'écus. Le "Land resource center", organisation gouvernementale britannique participe au projet. Une compagnie privée, la "Hunting Technical Services" y est également associée. "Tout est allé très vite" affirme le représentant de cette société en Jordanie et responsable du projet, Roy Law. Le 2 juillet 1989, les premiers travaux débutent. Objectif: "Le gouvernement et le ministère de l'Agriculture voulaient disposer d'informations supplémentaires sur le sol jordanien". Pourquoi? "La Jordanie importe un pourcentage important de sa nourriture, et accuse des lacunes sur le plan de ses ressources en eau, affirme Roy Law, nous avons donc besoin d'accroître la production agricole dès que possible mais aussi d'utiliser l'eau de manière efficace".

### Images de "Spot"

Ce projet mobilise également la Water Authority, le ministère de l'Eau et de l'Irrigation et les différentes municipalités. Il comprend trois étapes. La première, déjà terminée s'appelle "reconnaissance du sol de toute la Jordanie". "Nous analysons des données pour pouvoir établir une carte du sol jordanien". L'équipe du projet est aidée par les clichés du satellite américain "Landsat".

Pour la deuxième étape, qui a déjà été lancée, l'étude "semi-détaillée" porte sur 8.000 km2. A ce niveau de travail, c'est le satellite français "Spot" qui fournit les photographies. "Nous allons également fournir une carte de l'utilisation des sols, notamment pour l'agriculture".

Enfin, le niveau 3 du projet va se focaliser sur 830 km2. "Ce terrain sera choisi en fonction de son intérêt" affirme Roy Law. Les résultats attendus sont la sortie d'une "carte d'évaluation et d'utilisation du sol".

Les informations recueillies lors de ces trois étapes seront rassemblées sur ordinateur. "Tous les sites seront répertoriés" affirme Roy Law. Ce projet d'étude à grande échelle, qui doit arriver à son terme en 1995, s'inscrit dans une politique générale agricole menée par la CEE. Une politique qui réprovoie le coup par coup pour y préférer le long terme.

Francis Mazoyer

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Les experts de la Commission et de la JCO inspectent le "projet Awassi"



For the holiday season

# Suntanning the safe way

By Sophia Morolin

FOR THE first time in recent history, the sight of pale bodies being browned in the beaches and parks was accompanied by the gnawing thought: could these sun worshippers be courting death?

Only the more serious media in Europe and elsewhere on the continent has tackled the question head-on; the more frivolous among the tabloids have been concerned with showing off the bare bodies of people getting their free tan in public places without making any reference to the grim facts.

So realistic is the risk of skin cancer — or cataract or blindness — from exposure to the sun in Europe that scientists for the first time have thought it necessary to issue specific warnings. A wide swathe of Europe, already stricken by drought, is under risk and metropolitan centres such as London, Amsterdam and Moscow are considered "high risk" areas due to the high concentrations of pollution in the urban environment and the depletion of the ozone layer over the northern hemisphere.

The Cambridge-based European Ozone Secretariat in a recent 17-nation study, said the ozone shield over the northern hemisphere had thinned between 10 to 20 per cent in December and January and five to 15 per cent in February — a surprisingly dramatic change in a short span of time. The scientists' spokesman asked people to avoid the midday sun, when ultraviolet radiation can be at its deadliest.

The study, which was funded by the European Community, found that many of the monitoring centers recorded their lowest

ozone measures for winter months. Figures for the spring and summer months are yet to be known. They are unlikely to show any improvement.

Despite the statistics, the political and medical response to the ozone crisis has been markedly low-key, with both politicians and medical institutions seeming anxious not to sound alarmist. Some of the British medical institutions approached by this reporter said they had no opinion on the cancer risks though they were treating patients apparently bearing the hallmarks of ultraviolet searing.

Tens of millions of people world wide are currently facing blindness or skin cancer as a direct result of the ozone shield being gradually devoured by man-made chlorofluorocarbons, used in spray cans, refrigerants and other items of modern life. But the CFCs are not scheduled to be banned until the year 2000. If they are eliminated in the next three years, UN experts say, there may be hope yet for an additional 4.5 million people who will be stricken by skin cancer and another 350,000 people destined to become blind by the end of the century.

Whether ozone-saving measures are adopted by politicians are not, the hard facts are sinking in. More and more sunbathers have been quoted as saying that they burn more easily and many have returned from holiday not "shimmering bronze" but "smoking scarlet".

Susan Howlett, who spent Brighton's (Britain) rare sunny day languishing in her garden "to get a head start" on her tan, is now waiting for her annual trip to Spain. But, she said, "I don't want to take any risks. No one told us

much when we were exposed to radiation from the Chernobyl disaster (1986). I was in London then, and I got unusually red that spring day, even though I had not been outdoors for very long. It was several days later, when we were told that the cloud from the Ukraine had passed over London, that I began to wonder."

Suntans are regarded almost as status symbols by white Europeans and most people are unlikely to be as careful as Mrs. Howlett. The chances are that even with ample information being made available habits will not change overnight.

Up until the 1970s the most fashionable method of getting tanned was under sunlamps. But these were found to emit large amounts of ultraviolet radiation and even though the industry replaced the lamps with "newer and safer" models, their popularity has dwindled. As the owner of a beauty salon complained, "Even with special offers not many people want to use the sun-beds now. Herbal skin treatments are more in demand even though they cost a lot more than a session under the lamps."

Concern over ozone depletion has been at the centre of controversy in the run-up to the United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro with delegates from both sides of the Atlantic arguing over the cut-off dates for the production of CFCs world wide. That something needs to be done soon is not, apparently, an issue. The real problem seems to be how best to persuade the industrial giants to switch to less lucrative substitutes for the CFCs.

While the producers of CFCs seem in no apparent hurry to find alternative sources of revenue, the sunbather cosmetics manufacturers have been quick to step in with new products promising "safer" and "broader" sessions under the sun. Suntan oils and lotions were always assumed to contain substances that would protect the body against ultraviolet rays but the latest advertising campaigns of almost all the products on the market boast of "added protection."

"There seems to be a greater awareness now of the dangers of over exposure to the sun," said Joyce Palmer who works in one of Britain's leading chemist chains. "Before people just picked up a packet of lotion, paid for it and walked out of the store. Now I see people reading the labels carefully. Some ask for advice on the best protection for either themselves or their children."

But old habits die hard and, though there is a greater awareness now of the dangers of ultraviolet radiation than anytime during the history of ritual tanning, at the first signs of summer in Brighton in May people were seen pursuing their typical summer pastime on the beaches or in their back gardens with a joyful abandon, as if there were no tomorrow. Judging by the unpredictability of the British weather, who could blame them?



## To tan or not to tan, that is the question

By Patricia McLaughlin

EVERYBODY KNOWS by now there's no such thing as a healthy tan. The very phrase — "healthy tan" — has become an oxymoron. A tan might look nice, but getting one is anything but healthy.

Scientists associated the increase in skin cancer with the fact that we spend more time in the sun than we did several decades ago. A bad sunburn in childhood or adolescence is a major risk factor for melanoma years later. And even if you don't get burned, and even if you don't get skin cancer, every little photon that hits your skin is a tiny time bomb, just waiting to turn into wrinkles and sags somewhere down the line.

What this means is that hard-core sunbathers — and they're still out there, frying on the beach under slicks of baby oil — are risking their lives, not to mention a wrinkly middle age. As for life-guards — why don't they just go work in asbestos factories?

What it comes down to: The nicest thing you could do for your skin would be to spend the summer under a nice rock somewhere.

Albert Klugman thinks this is going too far. Klugman, the University of Pennsylvania dermatologist who discovered the anti-aging effects of Retin-A, thinks his colleagues in dermatology have gone overboard. He says they've "become too extreme in their denunciations" of the sun. "They've lost their balance. They're jumping around on one leg." He thinks it's important to start kids using sunscreen early. He also thinks "we should get people out of tanning salons."

But, as for the now-common assumption that there's "no safe way to get a tan," he says there's no evidence for it, and in his own personal opinion, it's "absolute nonsense." According to Klugman, it's entirely possible to get a

healthy tan — as long as you aren't blue-eyed, red-headed, and of Scotch, Irish or Welsh descent, in which case you probably can't tan at all.

Klugman says too much sun is damaging, but a little can have demonstrable benefits — increased vitamin D, a sense of well-being, and the aesthetic and health advantages of a tan.

Health advantages of a tan? But yes, according to Klugman, "a properly acquired tan is protective; it's adaptive. It's good." He says it's "not an accident that people who live in equatorial climates are black or brown." Melanin provides a measure of protection against sunburn. Not enough for people with black, brown or tan skin to spend a lot of time in the sun without wearing sunscreen, but some. In fact, Klugman says, people who work outdoors in the sun, day in and day out, are much less likely to get malignant melanoma than people who work indoors all year and then go to the beach for a week in the summer, lie out in the sun for hours and end up with a bad sunburn.

So, he says reviewing the material for you, "is a tan good? Yes. Is there a safe way to get a tan? Sure."

And what is this safe way? He suggests starting with five minutes a day in the sun — and continuing to wear sunscreen even after you're tan. He says SPF 15 "is plenty if you're dark-haired Italian or Jordanian." He likes "nothing less than 15 because it becomes 10 in an hour. You sweat and it rubs off." If you're fair, go for a higher SPF. And if you're a red-headed, blue-eyed, freckled Celt, keep your shirt on. Because, Klugman explains, you have a genetic defect that prevents you from tanning, which means you need an SPF of about 190. But don't feel bad. Now that everybody's scared of the sun, pallor is acquiring a degree of cachet. ■

## YOUR HEALTH

### CALORIE COUNTDOWN

When Your Diet Falls Flat

MOST DIETERS feel they've failed when they can't stick to the diet they're on and lose the weight they need to lose. Some-

times, it's definitely our own fault when a diet doesn't work out. There are other times, however, when it's not the diet who's failed, but rather the diet itself. When this is true, you should be asking yourself what your diet has done for your lately.

The following questions might help you find out if the problem lies with the kind of weight-loss program you're on:

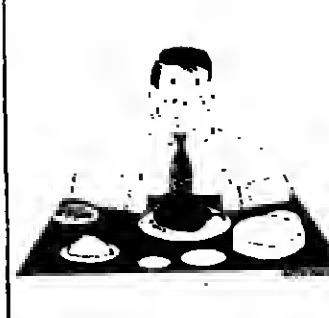
• Are you hungry most of the time? If your answer is yes, you're on the wrong diet for you. Any diet that deprives you of so much food that you have to go around feeling starved simply won't work. When an eating plan cuts back too drastically on food amounts, your body eventually rebels. The ultimate result is a binge, and the inevitable weight regain. The best diets allow you to eat all the low-calorie foods you need to feel satisfied and well-nourished, so you can lose weight steadily, and keep it off.

• Is your exercise schedule too rigorous? If your weight-loss plan requires that you work out so frequently that you have a

hard time keeping up and you often feel tired, you're probably over exerting yourself. The effects of this are similar to those involved with under-eating. Most of us simply can't maintain an overly demanding workout program. Eventually, we become discouraged, lose interest and stop exercising altogether. Even worse, we might end up with an injury that keeps us sedentary for weeks at a time. Be reasonable about exercising. A good program is one that gets more interesting and attractive as your condition improves.

Vary your routine and take days off between the toughest workouts.

• Do you find yourself craving foods that your diet doesn't allow you to have even a taste of? Listen to your body's signals. These cravings may be trying to tell you something. Even if you're tempted by sweets and junk foods, it could indicate your diet lacks certain nutrients. You might not be taking in the right amount of carbohydrates, for example, or perhaps you're not getting enough fat in your diet. (Many dieters make the mistake of eliminating fats entirely; some fat intake is essential to a healthy eating plan.) Don't keep blaming yourself if your diet and exercise plan doesn't seem to be working for you. The fault may lie not with you but with the program you've chosen. ■



### KEEPING FIT

If you're shopping around for an exercise facility, do you know what to look for?

The club or gym should offer child care if you need it, and personalized programs tailored to your needs and interests. That's just two of the tips in The American College of Sport Medicine's new "Consumer Selection Guide for Health/Fitness Facility."

Here's some of the other things to look for, the ACSM says:

- Does the facility have the type and quantity of equipment and areas such as aerobics studios and exercise machines to enable you to achieve your program goal?
- Are all activity areas regularly cleaned and maintained?
- Are seats clean and the machines not constantly breaking down?
- Are all unsafe conditions and equipment breakdowns remedied promptly?
- Does the facility have adequate parking and is the area well-lit?
- Does the staff have the appropriate education and background and a certification from a nationally recognized professional organization?
- Are they friendly and helpful? Is there adequate staff?
- Does the staff give each new member orientation and instructions concerning the use of the equipment?
- Is there ongoing communication between staff and members such as newsletters, comment boxes or focus groups?
- Does the facility offer recreational and exercise programs at convenient times?
- Does it offer instruction in the activity you want to learn?



People who climb mountains together develop a special bond so when French Ambassador Dennis Bauchard and his wife Genevieve invited participants in the recent Friends of Archaeology trip to Sinai to a gathering recently, they were happy to be reunited. There was much talk of tired muscles and spectacular views, of those who lagged behind and those who led and, of course, of who has already signed up for the FOA's next major trip which is planned for Oman in November.

## Italian Archaeological Institute opens in Amman

The Centro Ricerche Archeologiche e Scavi di Torino, the Institute of Archaeological Sciences affiliated to the University of Turin in Italy, celebrated the opening of its new center in Amman at a cocktail reception last Thursday. The event, which was hosted by the new center Director, Prof. Giorgio Gullini, also honored the long history of cooperation between the Centro Scavi and the Jordanian Department of Antiquities.

The two sides have been working together in Jerash since 1977, while in 1982 the Centro Scavi was the implementing institution for research carried out at Jerash's Aramis Temple, the funding for which came from the Directorate General for Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Jordan's Department of Antiquities.

Amman's new Centro Scavi premises have been opened next to the Italian Hospital. Appropriately enough, they are situated within a renovated house built originally for an Italian archaeological expedition in the 1930s. A beautiful and splendidly furnished building, the center includes a library, study rooms and laboratories. ■

At the Baladna Art Gallery, works of many Jordanian artists are exhibited from 3-18 June. The exhibition can be considered as a typical representation of Post Impressionism, Cubism, Post-Cubism, Abstract Expressionism and the New Plastic Art. The multi-faceted geometric portraits can be decoded in several ways; the appearance of a new generation seeking recognition; a reawakening of the creative force toward conceptualization and the pursuit of natural and organic sources.

**JORDAN UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN (JUW)**

**ARABIC AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE**  
Jordan University for Women (JUW) is offering a summer intensive course in:

**MODERN STANDARD ARABIC**  
for non-Arabic speaking females. Classes begin on 4/7/1992 and last for a period of 6 weeks. The course includes:

- Arabic writing and sound systems
- Basic vocabulary
- Basic grammatical structures (morphology and syntax)

For further information, please contact:  
**Ms. Reem Abu Lughod**  
Jordan University for Women  
P.O. Box 961343  
Amman - Jordan  
Fax: 715570  
Tel.: 715558 / 715461 / 715982-85

### Films

■ The Goethe-Institut will be presenting a film titled, *The Glass Cell*, on Saturday 20 June at 8 pm.

### Exhibitions

■ A display of posters about environmental control measures in Britain will be held at the British Council until Wednesday, 17 June.

### Concert

■ The two guitarists, Thomas Offermann and Jens Wagner will perform at the Hotel Philadelphia. The concert, which will be held on Wednesday 17 June, and will



## Agenda

include guitar music from Spain and South America from the 19th century.

### Function

■ The Muslim Women's Activity Group will be holding an Eid function on Thursday 18 June at the Islamic Hospital in the Abdulla Azam Hall. The gathering will include a mini bazaar, a small carnival and free gifts for children. Entry fee will be JD1 for adults and 250 fils for children. All proceeds will go to charity.

### Lecture

■ On Tuesday, 16 June, at 7 pm, Dr. Jasi Salama-Pickartz will be presenting a lecture titled, *International Families - Model Experience for International Relationships?* at the Goethe-Institut.

### Field Trips

■ Friends of Archeology have organized a field trip this month. The first trip which is on Friday 19 June. The tour will be of old Amman. Dr. Talib Rifai and Architect Leen Pakhour from the Dept. of Architecture of the Uni. of Jordan will lead this walking tour of the downtown area. Departure will be from the Amra Hotel parking lot at 9 am.

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# The Star's GUIDE

Programs on  
Jordan  
Television  
from  
13-19  
June

## ENGLISH PROGRAM

## SATURDAY

8:30 — Super Bloopers.  
9:00 — Encounter.  
9:30 — Feature Film: Reds.  
10:00 — News in English.  
10:20 — Continuation of the feature film.

## SUNDAY

8:30 — Wings.  
9:10 — Football.  
10:00 — News in English.  
10:20 — Law & Order.

## MONDAY

8:30 — Close to Home.  
9:10 — Football. Netherlands and Russia.  
10:00 — News in English.  
10:20 — Gold. Johnny and his wife decide to live in the big city.

## TUESDAY

8:30 — Acropolis Now: The proxy blues.  
9:10 — Palace Guard.  
10:00 — News in English.  
10:20 — Classical Film: Knight Without Armour. Starring Marlon Brando, Robert Donat. The Russian Countess faces trouble during the Russian Revolution until she leaves Russia for good.

## WEDNESDAY

8:30 — Saved by the bell.  
9:10 — Football.  
10:00 — News in English.  
10:20 — A tale of two cities.

## THURSDAY

8:30 — The Simpsons.  
9:10 — Football.  
10:00 — News in English.  
10:20 — Movie of the Week: Children of the Bride. Starring Patrick Duffy and Kristy McNichol. At the age of Seventy Margaret makes choices.



"Close to Home", Monday at 8:30

## FRIDAY

8:30 — Coach.  
9:10 — E.N.G.  
10:00 — News in English.  
10:20 — Inspector Morse.

## FRENCH PROGRAM

## SAMEDI

6:00 — Les Tortues Ninja.  
6:25 — Le dessous des cartes. A documentary program.  
6:30 — La Gymnastique.  
7:00 — News in French.  
7:15 — Magazine E-M6: The cultural Magazine.

## DIMANCHE

5:30 — Michel Vaillant.  
5:50 — Des chiffres et des lettres.  
6:10 — L'école des fans.  
7:00 — News in French.  
7:15 — Carnet de notes. A classical music program.

## LUNDI

6:00 — Le Jeu des animaux.  
6:10 — Le Monde sous marin de Jacques-Yves Cousteau.  
7:00 — News in French.  
7:15 — The Weekly Sports

## MAGAZINE

## MARDI

6:00 — Les Aventures de Joe.  
6:10 — Les Tortues Ninja.  
7:00 — News in French.  
7:15 — A selection of French songs.

## MERCREDI

6:00 — Le monde est à vous. A variety and cultural program.  
7:00 — News in French.  
7:15 — Carré vert. A documentary program.

## JEUDI

6:00 — Les Sanctuaires Sauvages. A documentary program.  
6:30 — Maguy.  
7:00 — News in French.  
7:15 — Le cirque au soleil: International Circus.

## VENDREDI

5:30 — L'équipage. A film about the war in France.  
7:00 — News in French.  
7:15 — Fusions. The cultural magazine.

## TOP ENTERTAINMENT HITS

## TOP POP SINGLES

1. Under the Bridge, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Warner Bros.
2. Jump, Kris Kross, Columbia
3. Live and Learn, Jody Watley, Columbia
4. Tears in Heaven, Eric Clapton, Reprise
5. Bohemian Rhapsody, Queen, Hollywood
6. Save the Best for Last, Vanessa Williams, Wing
7. Ain't 2 Proud 2 Beg, TLC, Arista
8. Every Thing About You, Ugly Kid Joe, Mercury
9. One, U2, Island
10. In the Closet, Michael Jackson, MCA

## TOP VIDEO RENTALS

1. Frankie and Johnny, Al Pacino, Michelle Pfeiffer, Paramount Home Video (R-1991)
2. Little Man Tate, Jodie Foster, Adam Hann-Byrd, Orion Home Video (R-1991)
3. The Last Boy Scout, Bruce Willis, Damon Wayans, Warner Home Video (R-1991)
4. The Fisher King, Robin Williams, Jeff Bridges, Columbia TriStar Home Video (R-1991)
5. Curly Sue, Allison Porter, Jim Belushi, Warner Home Video (PG-1991)

6. Boyz n the Hood, Ice Cube, Cuba Gooding Jr., Columbia TriStar Home Video (R-1991)
7. Deceived, Goldie Hawn, John Heard, Touchstone Home Video (R-1991)
8. Shattered, Tom Berenger, Gracia Scacchi, MGM/UA Home Video (R-1991)
9. Ricochet, Denzel Washington, John Lithgow, HBO Video (R-1991)
10. Rambling Rose, Laura Dern, Diane Ladd, Live Home Video (R-1991)



El Pacino star of "Frankie and Johnny"

## HOME MOVIES

■ "WAITING FOR THE LIGHT" (RCA/Columbia) The estimable talents of Shirley MacLaine and Teri Garr are combined in this comedy-drama, which even manages to work in a dose of MacLaine's beliefs in the afterlife. In fact, she's cast as a magician whose rather unique abilities unexpectedly manage to help her niece and the latter's two children. ★★ (PG: AS, P)



Shirley MacLaine star of "Waiting for the Light"

■ "THE ADDAMS FAMILY" (Paramount) Creepy and spooky and altogether ooky as ever, cartoonist Charles Addams' bizarre clan comes to life again in this box-office hit, which Paramount acquired from the financially troubled Orion Pictures. Raul Julia and Anjelica Huston play Gomez and Morticia, with Christopher Lloyd as Uncle Fester; of course, the ever handy Thing also stars. ★★ (PG: AS, P, V)

■ "KUFFS" (MCA/Universal) Slightly controversial when the Dallas Film Board lambasted its assigned rating due to its violence, the action-comedy stars

Christinn Slater as a young man who learns responsibility fast: His girlfriend is pregnant, and he's just inherited his late brother's private security firm. ★★ (PG: AS, P, V)

## RATINGS:

★ - don't bother, ★★ - not bad, ★★★ - worth seeing, ★★★★ - excellent.

FAMILY VIEWING GUIDE KEY: P - profanity; V - violence; GV - particularly graphic violence; AS - adult situations.

## Wine & Cheese

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## Would You Believe.....

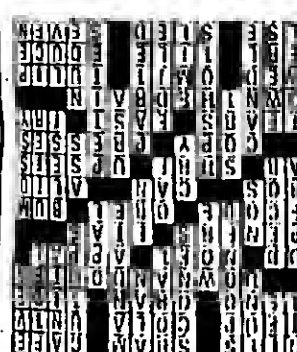
The U.S. Postal Service is going to let the people decide which portrait of Elvis Presley to use on a stamp scheduled for issue in 1993. Fans must decide between a young Elvis or one in his later years.

An extensive new study has found that teen-agers who have jobs are actually more likely to use drugs and break other laws than teens who don't work.

The Troy State (Alo.) basketball team defeated DeVry Institute in January 1992 with an incredible score of 255-141. With the victory, the Trojans smashed the college record for most points in one game by a single team (187). They had set that standard the year before, also against DeVry.

The entire mountain of Fuji in Japan is considered to be an ancient Shinto shrine.

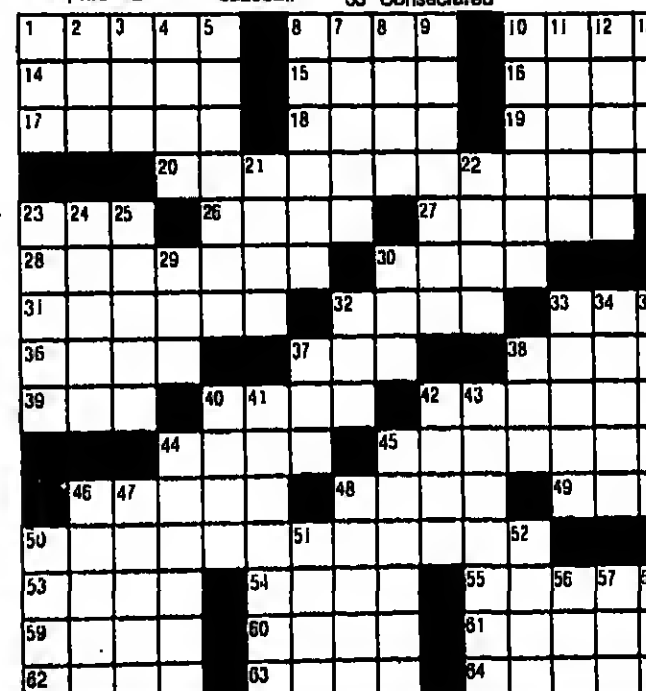
## Solution



## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**ACROSS**  
1. Uss the links  
8. Hoax  
10. Eating piece  
14. Gobblid  
15. Soft drink  
16. Harvard or Yale: abbr.  
17. Office help  
18. Algerian port  
19. "Time and — wait."  
20. Skid row figure  
23. Carew or Steiger  
26. Yule song  
27. Shock: var.  
28. Certain poker players  
30. Greek letters  
31. Solve a message  
32. USSR city  
33. See 20 A  
36. Son of Aphrodite

**DOWN**  
3. Actor Ven  
4. Cash reserve  
5. Used a ladle  
6. Tascakes  
7. Ol' lime period  
8. One of the Aidas  
9. Authoritative command  
10. Practical jokas  
11. Santa — Always  
12. Casino  
13. Had on Gammons  
21. Roundup spectacle  
24. Vehicle for Pavarotti  
25. Furnishing concern  
29. Numerals: abbr.  
30. Sea bird  
32. Doll  
33. Consecrated



## JORDAN BRIDGE

By Ghassan Ghanem

### Tales of the expected

SOMETIMES, PARTNER makes a final bid counting on his own judgement, you are obliged to comply and play the hand up to your partner expectation.

♠ Q 10 9 7  
♥ A 3 2  
♦ 8 6 5  
♣ A 4 2

♠ A 5 4 3  
♥ Q 10 9 7 5  
♦ 4 3  
♣ 10 7

N  
W E  
S

♠ K J 8 6 2  
♥ K 6 4  
♦ A Q 7  
♣ K 3

Sitting south, I opened 1N and partner did not waste much time to reach 3N.

Playing pairs, my partner tried the higher scoring contract, specially that she could not provide any ruff if she had tried the potential.

West led the ten of hearts, a top of a natural or imputed sequence, I paused to analyze the situation.

My tricks are four spades, two hearts, one or two diamonds and two clubs.

Five tricks in the backed and one more if I try the diamond finesse later.

Declarers playing 4♠ would make ten tricks if

the diamond finesse is on, or if they play for some existing squeezers.

Accordingly I squeeze since their timing is better than mine and delay the diamond finesse as much as possible, lessons I had learned thorough experience:

\* The finesse is your last resource  
\* Don't put your eggs in one basket.

I ducked the first heart and won the heart continuation and started forcing the ♠ A. West won and played a diamond complying to her partner's signal. An unexpected gift, a free finesse! I cashed the rest of my spades reaching this situation:

♠ ---  
♥ A  
♦ 6  
♣ A 4 2

♠ ---  
♥ Q 9  
♦ 3  
♣ 10 7

♠ ---  
♥ 4  
♦ Q 7  
♣ K 3

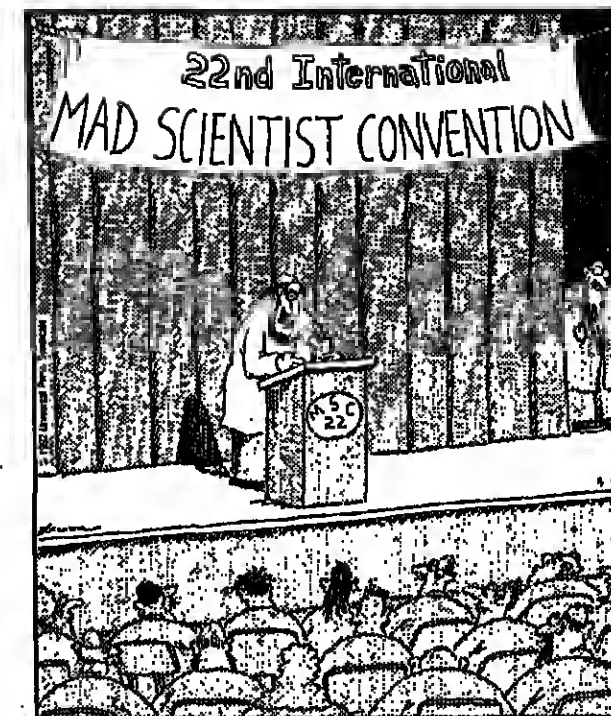
When I cashed the ♠ A East was squeezed in diamonds, eleven unexpected tricks for a clear top that was expected by my partner.

## THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



Fly dataa



"So please welcome our keynote speaker, Professor Melvin Fenwick — the man who, back in 1952, first coined the now common phrase: 'Fools! I'll destroy them all!'."



"Sorry to bother you, sir, but there's another salesman out here — you want me to tell him to go to heaven?"